

38-2-L.



REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSION ON MARKING
HISTORICAL SITES
OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

38-42-L.

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TABLET NO. 1 — FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL
BOSTON COMMON, BEACON STREET SIDE

REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSION ON MARKING
HISTORICAL SITES
OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON



1924-1937

COMMISSION
THOMAS H. DOWD, *Chairman*
JULIUS H. TUTTLE WILFRED F. KELLEY
FRANK LEVERONI JOSEPH A. F. O'NEIL

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FOREWORD.

IN tracing the development of American history, especially of that period covered by colonial days,—from 1630 to 1783,—no city in the nation offers a more alluring field for interesting research than the City of Boston. None there is wherein the sturdy character and indomitable purpose of the early colonist and patriot can be studied more intimately,—here where first was sounded the note of commonweal; here where first was struck the blow for American Independence; here wherein abides the Cradle of Liberty. For over one hundred and fifty years here was staged a mighty drama the theme of which was human liberty, in which the meagre strength of a struggling colony was pitted against the towering might of a world empire.

Across the stage of a virgin land, set with a background of primeval wilderness, heroic figures appeared, played their allotted parts, and passed on, to be succeeded by equally heroic figures, each in turn making his contribution to the contending forces. Here for a century and a half, amidst the ever shifting scenes of a mighty conflict, King and Subject, Royalist and Puritan, Might and Right, fought the age-old struggle of man's desire to be free.

The climax reached by the Declaration of Independence in 1776 inspired the hopes of subject peoples on earth. When, in 1783, the drop curtain was rung down on the final act, by the Treaty of Peace, the American nation was born, and the world witnessed the birth of a new political creed of government. The stalwart actors of this great drama have long since made their exit from the stage of life, but, ere they departed they left the imprint of their rugged virtues upon human progress. Later, in the formative days of the Republic, during the trying days immediately following the establishment of the Federal government, and subsequently during the Civil War, the sons of Boston, and of the Commonwealth, rendered honored service in every hour of the nation's need.

The abodes where dwelt these patriot farmers and builders of a great republic; the meeting places wherein they sounded Liberty's challenge to foreign misgovernment; the scenes of their glorious labors, all are shrines sacred to the cause of human freedom. It savors of the forgetfulness of beneficiaries, and of the ingratitude of republics, that these shrines of our heroic ancestors, these landmarks of American history, priceless in their significance, wherever liberty is honored and revered, should have hitherto escaped general public recognition. Our stern and rugged ancestors were no plunder-seeking adventurers; they were fearless crusaders inspired by the ideals of human liberty; they were prepared to sacrifice all for a freeman's right. For this glorious heritage they asked of posterity only remembrance.

Within the esplanade that skirts the Capitol on Beacon Hill rises a stately shaft which marks the site of the beacon of earlier days, from which the hill receives its name. A plain Doric column, surmounted by a great bronze eagle perched upon a globe, bears upon its pedestal a mute but eloquent message from the early defenders of American liberty:—

“Americans!
While from this eminence
Scenes of luxuriant fertility,
Of flourishing commerce
And abodes of social happiness
Meet your view,
Forget not those
Who, by their exertions,
Have secured to you
These blessings.”

Simple words, in simple garb, yet the labored sentence of skilful scrivener could not better frame the patriots' wish. Simple words of hope that the heirs of a nation's estate should read in their legacy the story of those by whose efforts this glorious inheritance was founded.

Previous to the creation of the Commission on Marking Historical Sites, there had been, it is true, sporadic markings of some of the most important historical events and places, by organizations interested in particular incidents and personages, but no comprehensive, systematic plan had ever been followed in this worthy patriotic work. It was not until the year 1891 that any general interest was evidenced in this direction. In that year the Sons of the Revolution took up the work of marking with appropriate bronze tablets historic places connected with historic events occurring in Boston, and in Massachusetts, during the War of the American Revolution.

As the activities of this worthy patriotic organization were limited to the period of the conflict with Great Britain,—that is, from 1776 to 1783,—much of Boston's early history was left unnoted by tablet or memorial. Acting on the suggestion of the Chairman of the Tablet Committee of the Sons of the Revolution, Walter Gilman Page, his Honor Mayor James M. Curley, sensing the need of comprehensive public action in marking these historic landmarks, created, on June 5, 1924, a commission, known as “The Commission on Marking Historical Sites,” whose function was to mark with appropriate tablet or memorial the most important events and places connected with the history of Boston from the date of its settlement.

The following members were appointed to the Commission:

WALTER GILMAN PAGE, *Chairman*,
EDWARD WEBSTER MCGLENEN,
CHARLES FRENCH READE,
WILLIAM SUMNER APPLETON,
WALTER KENDALL WATKINS.

An appropriation of \$15,000 was provided by the City Council to carry on the work. Before the Commission had entered upon its labors, Mr. Appleton and Mr. Reade resigned and Judge Thomas H. Dowd and Judge David A. Lourie, justices of the Superior Court, were appointed to fill the vacancies.

A searching study of the early history of Boston was immediately begun by the Commission. It was early realized that an exacting and laborious, though intensely interesting, task had been assumed. The march of progress with its attendant changes in the topography of the city had largely obliterated the original setting of early historic places and incidents. Many of the homes, meeting places and scenes of activity of the early colonists had been replaced from time to time by later structures.

Much preliminary investigation of early records, deeds, plans, maps and prints was pursued, in order that historical accuracy might be reached in locating the early sites of the dwellings, and the scenes of activities of the early patriots. After placing tablets and memorials to the number of twenty, during the remaining years of Mayor Curley's second administration, the Commission returned an unexpended balance of \$2,314.11 to the City of Boston. The Commission ceased to function under the administration of Mayor Nichols. Immediately upon Mayor Curley's inauguration for a third term, in January, 1930, he called the members of the Commission together, and requested that they take up the work left uncompleted, urging that as many tablets as possible should be placed, as early as arrangements could be made, in order that visitors coming to our portals during the Tercentenary Year might easily locate and view the honored shrines of their ancestors and that the public generally might read the history of Boston's glory from tablet and inscription. The City Council appropriated an additional \$20,000 to continue the work.

To expedite the labors of the Commission its membership was increased by the appointment of the following members:

CHARLES A. COOLIDGE, Architect.

CHARLES K. BOLTON, Librarian of the Boston Athenaeum.

RICHARD A. FISHER, Architect.

WILFRED F. KELLEY, Head Master, South Boston High School.

JUDGE FRANK LEVERONI, Justice, Juvenile Court.

JULIUS H. TUTTLE, Librarian, Massachusetts Historical Society.

JOSEPH A. F. O'NEIL, Master of Warren School, Charlestown.

Later Mayor Curley directed the attention of the Commission to the erection of an appropriate memorial to the original settlers of Boston, to be known as the "Memorial to the Founders." The Commission also planned and supervised the erection of the monolith and tablet on Lafayette Mall, Boston Common, inscribed with the Declaration of Independence. This tablet was dedicated on the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Magna Charta of American Liberty, July 4, 1926.

In the work of preparing the tablets the accurate knowledge of the antiquarian, the discerning sense of the artist, and the deft skill of the sculptor were engaged. The leading sculptors and architects of Boston were employed.

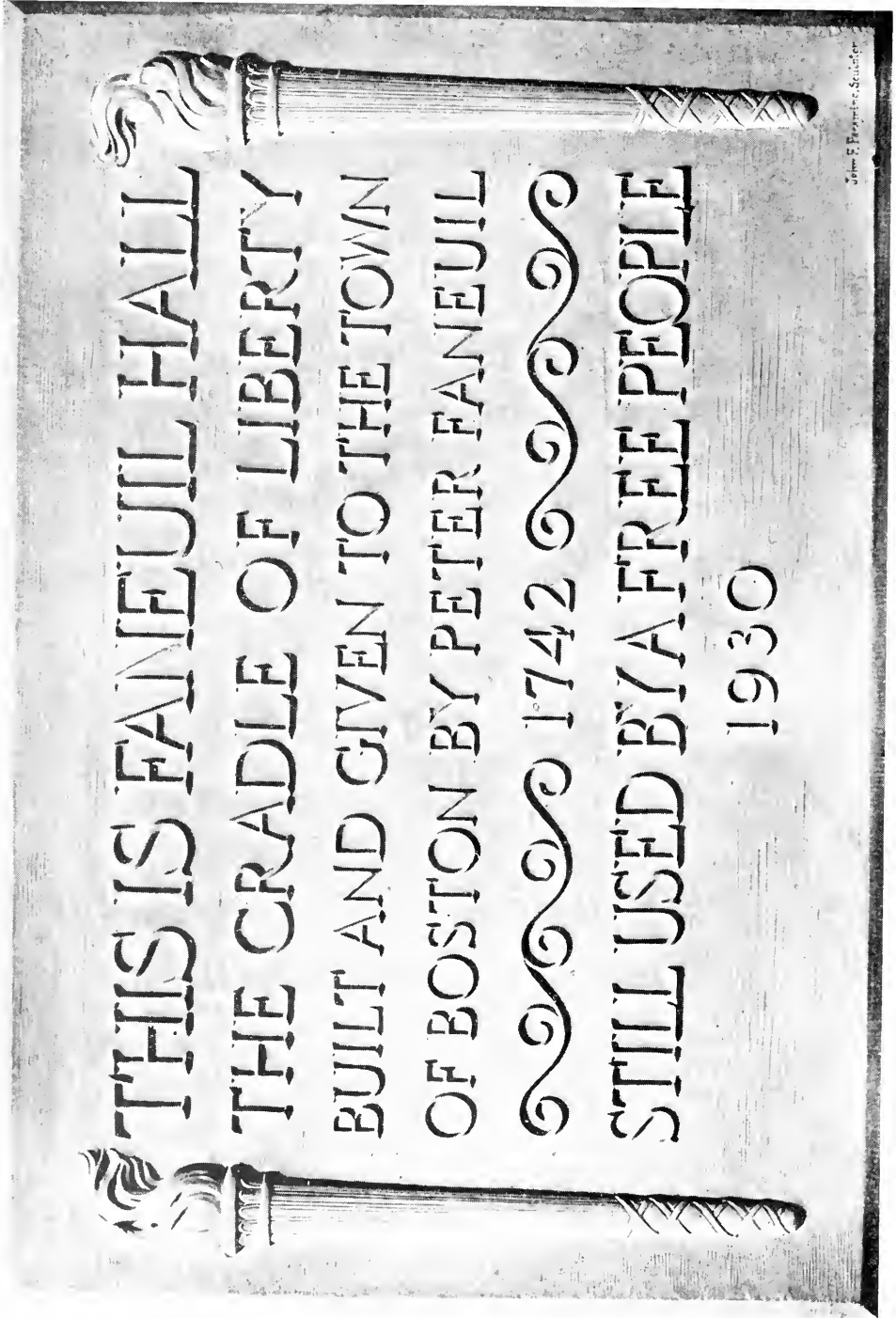
It is a matter of deep gratification to the members of the Commission to note the generous approval with which its work has been received by the citizens of Boston, and by the students of early Boston history. Over fifty tablets have been placed or erected, without exciting adverse criticism of any inaccuracy in historical statement or fault of design. The Commission takes this opportunity to express publicly its appreciation to Mayor Curley, under whose inspiration and with whose hearty cooperation the work of the Commission was made possible and to the members of the City Council who so generously provided for the work; to the New England Genealogical Society by whose kindness and patriotic interest the splendid appointments of its building on Ashburton place were given over, without charge, to the Commission for its meetings, as was also the use of the priceless library of early volumes and manuscripts; to the Boston Art Commission for its valuable constructive criticism and approval of the tablets, and to the citizens of Boston for the stimulating civic pride which they have displayed in the work of the Commission.

The Commission confined its labors to marking historic places and incidents which it found were not commemorated at all, or insufficiently marked. It has been the policy of the Commission to make the placing of each of these tablets an occasion for patriotic exercises to the end that the citizens, and more especially the youth, of our city might learn the historical significance of the events and places commemorated. The generous cooperation of the Citizens Public Celebrations Association was at all times accorded the Commission. Distinguished citizens of national and local prominence have participated in these exercises and have delivered noteworthy addresses at the respective dedications. The history of each incident has been fully discussed. Among those participating have been General John J. Pershing; Vice-President Charles Gates Dawes; Charles Francis Adams, Secretary of the Navy; the Honorable Frank G. Allen, Governor of Massachusetts; the Honorable James M. Curley, Mayor of Boston; the Right Reverend Henry K. Sherrill, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Boston; the famous poet, Edwin Markham; and many others prominent in various walks of life.

The historical sketches accompanying the tablets herein portrayed are by no means intended to be a complete record of the person, place, or incident. Sufficient information and references are given merely to identify the tablet. It is the hope of the Commission that such meagre data as are given may stimulate the reader with a desire for further study, and for the acquirement of a larger knowledge of American history.



TABLET NO. 2—FANEUIL HALL (NORTH SIDE)



TABLET NO. 3 — FANEUIL HALL (WEST SIDE)

FANEUIL HALL.
[“CRADLE OF LIBERTY.”]

IN 1740, the question of the Market-house being revived, Peter Faneuil the wealthiest merchant of Boston, proposed to build one, at his own expense, on the town's land in Dock Square, upon condition that the town should legally authorize it; exact proper regulations, and maintain it for public purposes. The offer was courteously accepted by the town and the building was completed in September, 1742. It was not at first intended by Faneuil to build more than one story, but he went beyond his original proposal and added another story for a town hall. The original building was forty by one hundred feet, just half of its present width. At the fire of January 13, 1763, the whole interior of the building was destroyed, but the town voted to rebuild it and the State authorized a lottery in aid of the project.

In 1806 the hall was enlarged after a design by Bulfinch to a width of eighty feet and by the addition of a third story. It was the meeting place of the patriots preceding and during the Revolution, from which fact it became known as the “Cradle of Liberty”. The hall and the market are still in use. Many stirring scenes and public celebrations have been held in this famous old hall. Patriots and leaders of thought have here fully expressed their opinions. No meeting place in the country is more revered. Among the attractions of the old Cradle of Liberty, the portraits which adorn the walls are not the least. The large picture by Healey, representing Webster replying to Hayne in the Senate, first attracts one's attention. The portraits of John Hancock and of Samuel Adams are by Copley, as is that of Joseph Warren. The full length picture of Washington is by Stuart, as is also that of General Knox. The full length picture of Peter Faneuil is a copy of a smaller picture in the Historical Society's possession. The superb clock was the gift of the school children of Boston.

Old Landmarks. Samuel A. Drake.

ON THIS SITE
STOOD THE HOUSE OF
DANIEL MAUDE
WHO KEPT HERE THE
"FIRST FREE SCHOOL"
IN 1636

PLACED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON 1924

TABLET NO. 4—FIRST FREE SCHOOL
SUFFOLK BANK BUILDING, PEMBERTON SQUARE

FIRST FREE SCHOOL.

AUGUST, 1636. "At a general meeting of the richer inhabitants there was given towards the maintenance of a free school master for the youth with us, Mr. Daniel Maude being now also chosen thereto": — The list is headed by "The Governor", Henry Vane, Esq., The Deputy Governor, John Winthrop, Esq., and forty-six others, comprising the most influential men of that time.

Town Records, Vol. I, p. 160, 12th of
the 6th mo.

Public Latin School. Historical Sketch
by Henry F. Jenks. 1886.

Mr. Maude was a non-conformist Puritan minister, but was ejected from his charge in England on account of his non-conformity. Cotton Mather places him, therefore, in his first class of ministers, who had been in pastoral duty before the emigration to this country. Mr. Maude arrived from England probably August 17, 1635. At this time he was about fifty years old. He was a graduate of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he took his degree of Bachelor in 1606, and of Master in 1610. He was admitted freeman at the general election May 25, 1636, the year after his arrival and on the second of August following was appointed teacher in the Latin School. Mr. Maude accepted a call to Dover, N. H., in 1641, "it pleased God to fit stones by the continual hearing of the word, and called to the office of Pastor one Mr. Maude, both godly and diligent in the work." The influence of his character upon the church in Dover, where he remained until his death in 1655, was long felt and most happy. Maude was a member of the same English College as John Harvard. As a Master of Arts of Emmanuel, his learning recommended Maude to a place which he filled well. He became the Master of the Latin School and continued in that position until he was called to Dover, N. H.

Maude had his school in his own house and gave it up when he became Master of the Latin School. Maude had a "garden plott next unto Stephen Kinsley's house-plott upon like condition of building thereon if need bee".

Boston Town Records, Vol. II, p. 17.

This "garden plott" was on Tremont street, near Winter street. Bowditch Titles, Vol. 8, pages 306-317, shows "Maude's possession, Letter E, showing Maude's ownership where the Suffolk Savings Bank is situated.



NEAR THIS SITE
 WAS THE FIRST HOUSE IN BOSTON OF
 / JOHN WINTHROP /
 BORN 1588 • DIED 1649
 GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS
 /// FOR TWELVE YEARS ///
 FIRST ELECTED OCTOBER 20 1629
 BROUGHT THE CHARTER FROM
 ENGLAND JUNE 12 1630
 THIS TABLET PLACED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON 1930

John Francis Paramino, Sculptor
 1930

TABLET NO. 5 — JOHN WINTHROP
 53 STATE STREET, BOSTON

JOHN WINTHROP.

[FOUNDER OF BOSTON.]

Born: Groton, England, January 12, 1588.

Died: Boston, Mass., March 26, 1649.

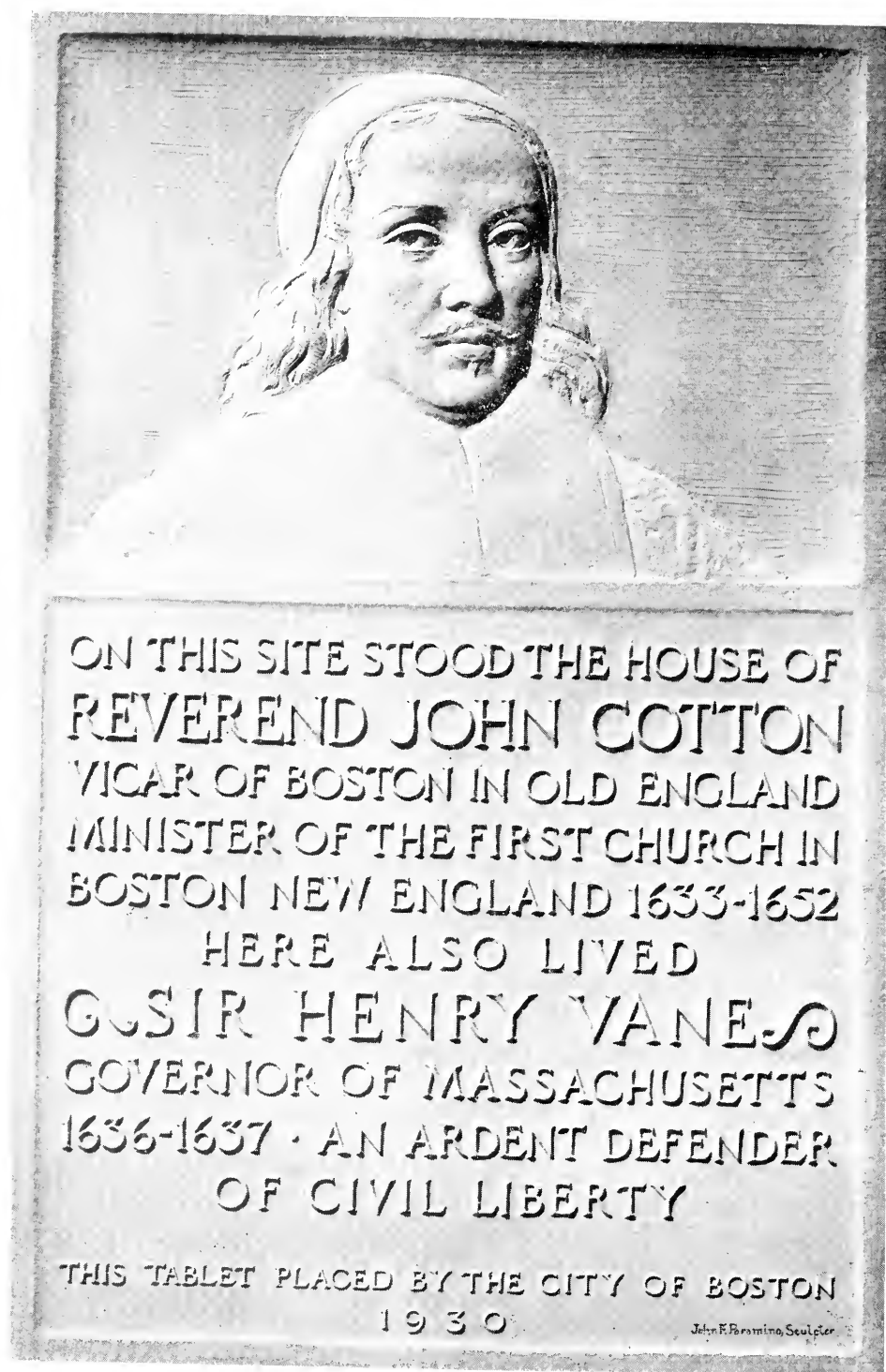
JOHN Winthrop was born in 1588, in the manor house of Groton, County of Suffolk, England. He came of an ancient and honored family of staunch Puritans. At the age of fourteen he was sent to Cambridge University and at twenty-one sat for the first time as a magistrate at his home town of Groton. He had already been admitted to practice law in the London courts. At this time the spirit of religious persecution was sweeping England and Winthrop saw that if he was to remain true to his religious convictions he, too, must fly to a place of refuge. He and his fellow religionists formed the Massachusetts Bay Company in England in 1628, of which he was Governor when he brought the Charter and the colonists of the Company and landed at Salem on July 12, 1630, and later in the month at Charlestown. Early in September he came to Boston from Charlestown at the earnest invitation of William Blaxton. Winthrop first was chosen Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, following the Charter Governor, Mathews Cradoek, before he left England in 1630, and each year thereafter until 1634. Later he was chosen Governor again and served in that capacity altogether twelve times. His administrations were marked with firmness and ability. He was a man of spotless character, and the leading citizen of the Colony, Josiah Quincy, 2nd, well said

“Had Boston like Rome a consecrated calendar there is no name better entitled than that of Winthrop to be registered as its ‘Patron Saint.’”

Walks and Talks about Historic Boston. Mann.

When Massachusetts was asked to place one statue in the Hall of Fame at Washington she wisely chose John Winthrop as the finest representative of her ideals and her achievements.

Pathways of the Puritans. N. S. Bell.



TABLET NO. 6 — RESIDENCE OF JOHN COTTON AND SIR HENRY VANE
 BARRISTERS HALL, PEMBERTON SQUARE

JOHN COTTON.

Born: Derby, England, April 12, 1585.

Died: Boston, Massachusetts, December 23, 1652.

REVEREND John Cotton, the Vicar of St. Botolph's Church, Boston, England, for more than twenty years, fell under the ban of Archbishop Laud and fled to New England, arriving here in 1633. He was ordained in the same year as colleague and teacher, in the First Church of Christ in Boston. He was a man of great learning and became widely known as a preacher. He published many religious books and treatises. This house had still a more distinguished tenant and owner in

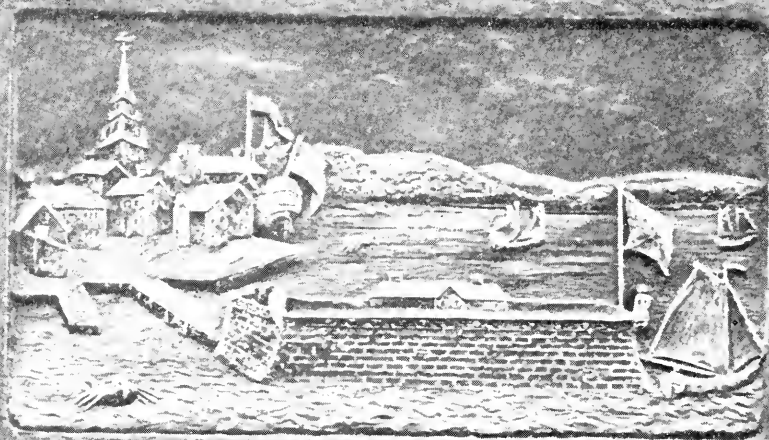
SIR HENRY VANE [THE YOUNGER].

Born: Derby, England, May 26, 1613.

Died: In London, England, June 14, 1662.

VANE resided here during the two years of his stay in Boston. He was only twenty-four years of age when chosen Governor. During his administration the religious controversy between the congregation and Anne Hutchinson broke out. Sir Harry approved both her views and her courage. Opposed by Winthrop for re-election he was defeated. Returning to England he was elected to Parliament. He became a member of the Council of State with almost exclusive control of the naval and foreign affairs. After the restoration of Charles II he was thrown into prison and was executed on Tower Hill, London, June 14, 1662.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



NORTH BATTERY
1644-1790

BRITISH TROOPS EMBARKED HERE
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL

THIS TABLET
PLACED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON
1930

TABLET NO. 7 — NORTH BATTERY
379 COMMERCIAL STREET, BOSTON

NORTH BATTERY.

THE first mention of what was afterwards called the North Battery occurs in the Boston records in January, 1644, when a work on Merry's Point, also called North Battery Point, was agreed upon. It was a strong structure built of whole timber and filled with earth. The 52d, 43d, and 47th British Regiments with companies of grenadiers and light infantry embarked from the North Battery on June 17, 1775, for Bunker Hill, as did also the 1st Battalion of Marines led by Major Pitcairn of Lexington fame. When Lord Howe evacuated Boston, the North Battery was armed with seven twelve-pounders, two nine-pounders and four six-pounders,—all of which were rendered unserviceable by the departing British. From its position the neck commanded the entrance to Charles River as well as the Town Cove, and was deemed of the highest military importance in those days of short range artillery.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 8—RESIDENCE OF JOHN ENDICOTT AND ELIHU YALE
17-19 TREMONT ROW

JOHN ENDICOTT.

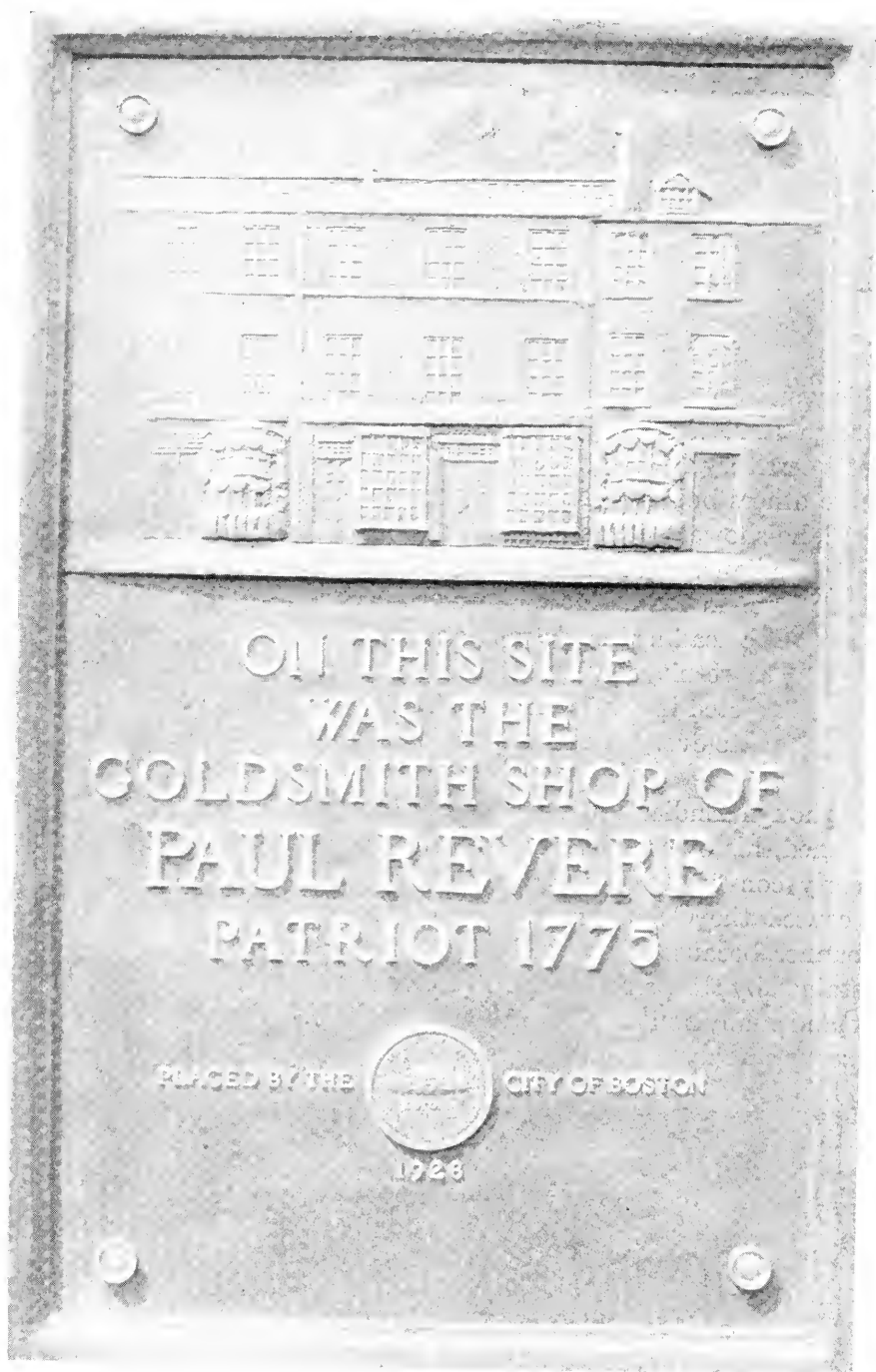
Born: Chagford, England, 1588.

Died: Boston, Massachusetts, March 15, 1665.

IN his youth John Endicott served as captain in the army and probably saw foreign service. With five other men he obtained, in 1628, the Massachusetts territory from the Council for New England, from whom Winthrop and five others bought it. As Governor of London's Plantation at Salem, 1628-30, he showed himself earnest, zealous and courageous; just in dealing with the Indians, but impatient with religious dissent. Upon the transfer of the Charter in 1630, Endicott was superseded as Governor by Winthrop but became a leading magistrate and military leader. Elected Governor in 1644, as a result of dissatisfaction with Winthrop's foreign policy, he was not re-elected in 1645. After Winthrop's death in 1649 he was chosen chief magistrate every year except two and was still Governor when he died in 1665.

Although Endicott's integrity and devotion to the Colony was never questioned, his overzealous Puritanism was a detriment to Massachusetts. An early convert to Roger Williams, he soon repented of his radicalism, and caused the Colony much embarrassment by mutilating the cross in the banner because it savored of "popish idolatry". His administration was stained by the persecution of the Quakers, three being hanged on Boston Neck and many mutilated and flogged, a policy which failed to suppress that sect and only brought disgrace to Massachusetts. He was buried with great honor and ceremony in the Granary Burying Ground in Boston.

Pathways of the Puritans. Published by the Massachusetts
Bay Colony Tercentenary Commission. 1930.



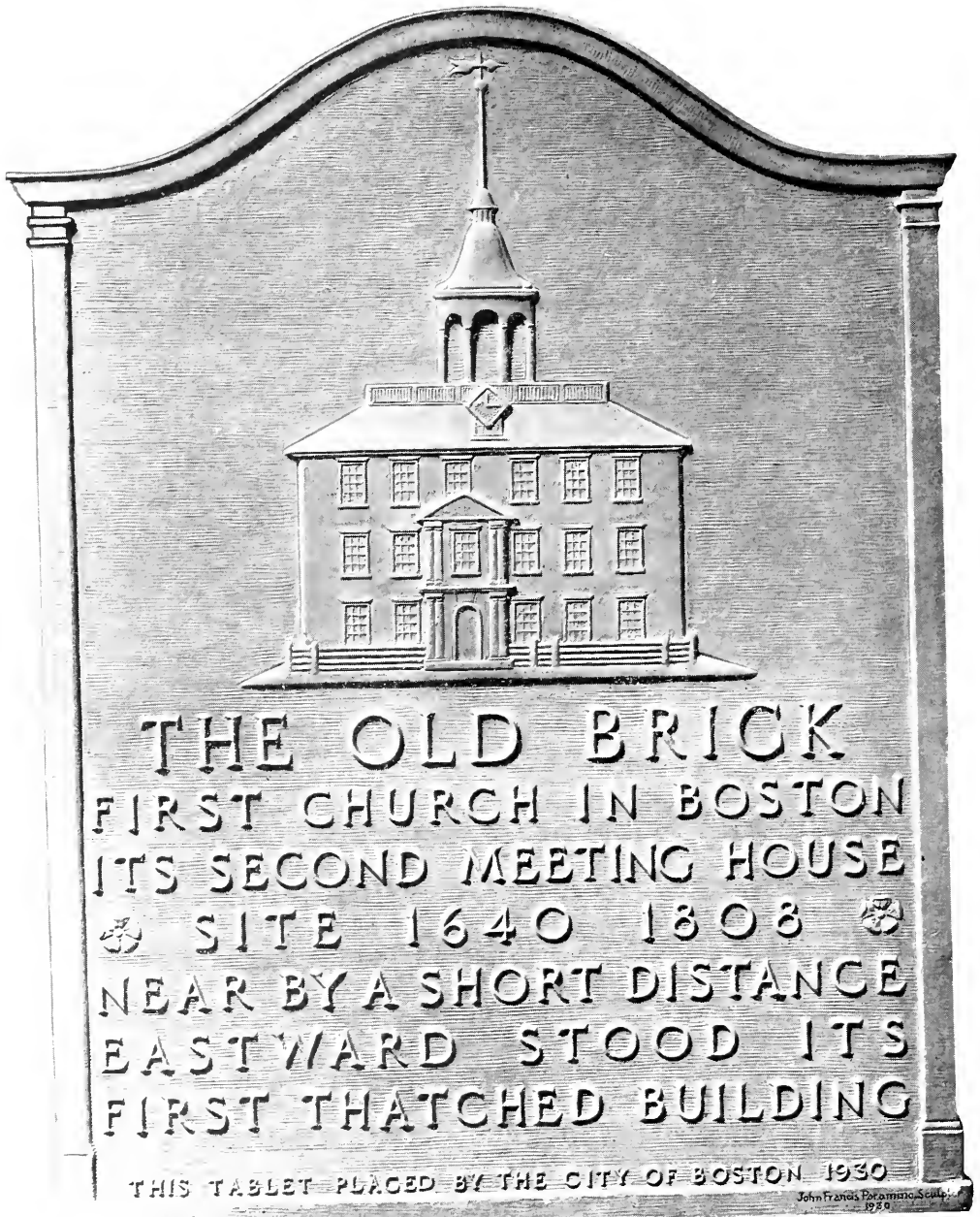
TABLET NO. 9—PAUL REVERE'S WORKSHOP
EXCHANGE TRUST BUILDING, WASHINGTON STREET

PAUL REVERE'S WORKSHOP.

PAUL Revere was descended from sturdy old Huguenots whose family name was Revoire. He was a goldsmith by trade. He became prominent in political affairs before the Revolution. He was said to be one of the Boston Tea Party, and was made famous by his ride with William Dawes in the night of April 18, 1775, through the Middlesex villages to warn the country folk of the expedition of the British to Concord. He has been immortalized by the poet Longfellow in "Paul Revere's Ride". After the evacuation of Boston he was a lieutenant colonel of militia and was on the ill-starred Penobscot expedition in 1779. After the peace in 1783, he established a cannon and bell foundry in the North End. Later he erected works at Canton for the manufacture of copper bolts, spikes, etc. He also established the first powder mill in the Colony. He was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Massachusetts from 1794 to 1797, and first president of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association from 1794 to 1797.

"Paul Revere was, in fact, one of the most versatile men of his generation: patriot, politician and soldier, goldsmith and silversmith, artist and engraver, mechanic and inventor, bell-founder, industrial pioneer, and contributor to the efficiency of the American navy and the merchant marine."

Pathways of the Puritans. N. S. Bell.



TABLET NO. 10—OLD BRICK CHURCH
 WASHINGTON STREET, NEAR STATE

OLD BRICK CHURCH.

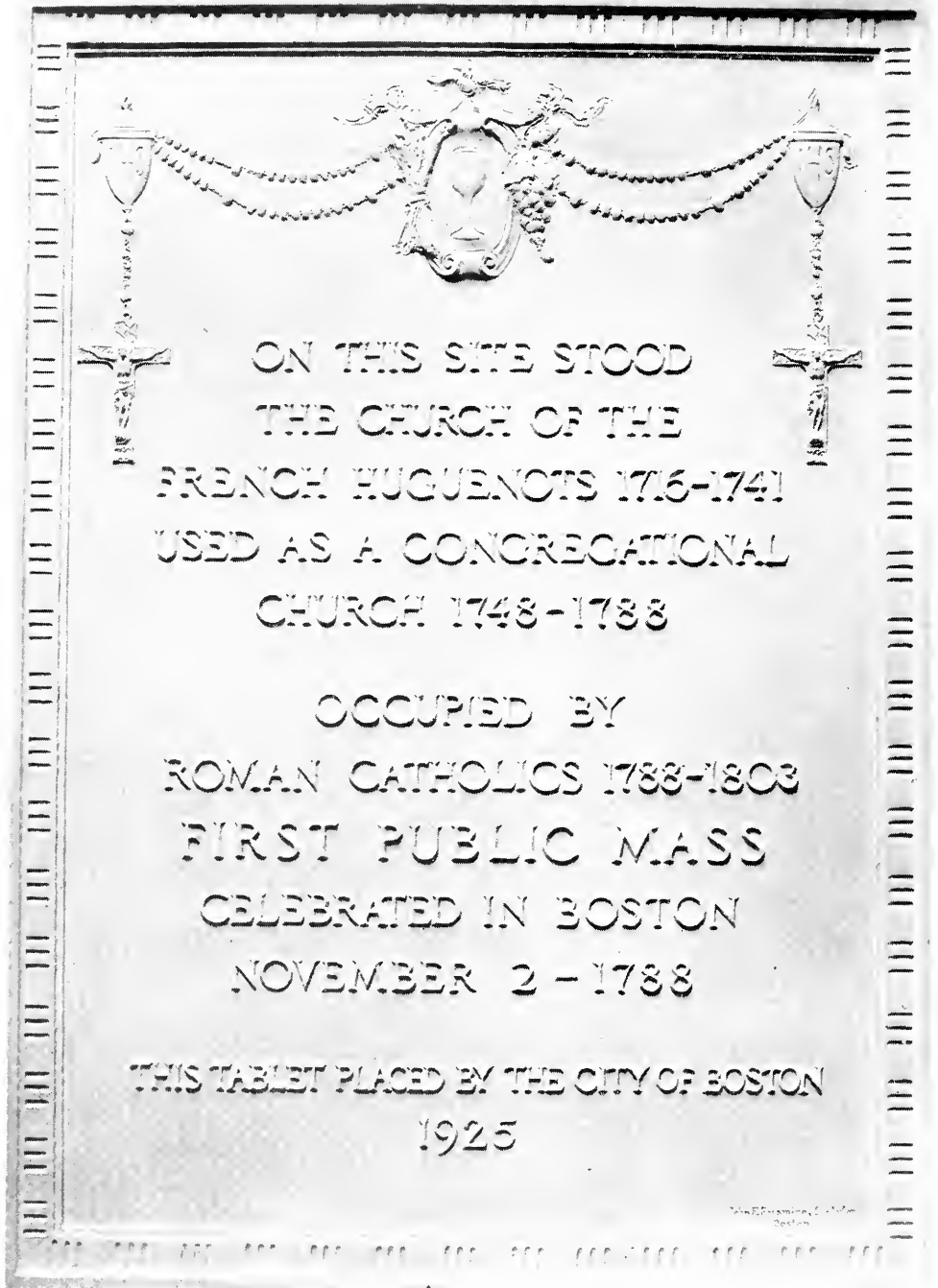
[FIRST CHURCH IN BOSTON.]

THE "Old Brick" was the second name given to the First Church of Christ in New England. The first meeting house was situated on the site now occupied by the Brazer Building, on State Street. It stood for seventy-seven years and was destroyed in the great fire of 1711. It was rebuilt of brick at a site on Washington Street near State. Thereafter it was called the Old Brick Church. The bell of the Old Brick sounded the alarm on the evening of March 5, 1770, of the Boston Massacre. Here in the first building preached John Wilson and John Cotton and here came Winthrop and Bellingham with their zealous Puritan followers,—men

"Stern to inflict and stubborn to endure who smiled in death."

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.

The first building was a rude structure with walls of mud and a thatched roof. After the siege of Boston, Washington with all his troops attended service here, and then adjourned to the Bunch of Grapes Tavern for refreshments.



TABLET NO. 11 — FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH
20 SCHOOL STREET

THE FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH.

ON the side of School Street opposite the City Hall, what is now Number 20, stood the little church of the French Huguenots. It was the church of the Faneuils, Baudoins (Bowdoins) and Sigourneys.

The church was built of brick about 1704. For a long time its erection was opposed by the town. After dissolution of the congregation, the church came into the hands of the Eleventh Congregational Society, which arose during the excitement caused by the coming of the great English Evangelist Whitefield. In 1785 the property passed into the hands of the Roman Catholics. Though Mass had been said privately in other places in Boston, the first public Mass was celebrated in this church in November, 1788. The building was removed in 1803.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 12 — WEST CHURCH
CORNER OF LYNDEN AND CAMBRIDGE STREETS

THE WEST CHURCH.

THE frame of the original church was set up in September, 1736, but the structure was not completed until the following spring. It shared the fate of other Boston churches in 1775, being used as a barracks by the British soldiers. It also suffered the loss of its steeple, which was taken down by the British to prevent signals being made to the Provincials at Cambridge. The old church was taken down and the present edifice built in 1806. The first Sunday School in New England was held here in 1812. The present structure was purchased by the City of Boston in 1894 and is now used as a branch of the Public Library.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 13—RESIDENCE OF GOVERNOR THOMAS HUTCHINSON
GARDEN COURT STREET

THOMAS HUTCHINSON.

Born: Boston, Massachusetts, September 11, 1711.

Died: Brompton, England, June 3, 1780.

THOMAS Hutchinson was Lieutenant-Governor and Governor 1771–1774. Under his administrations were enacted the most turbulent scenes which preceded the Revolution. By birth a Bostonian, his love for office led him at length into a position of antagonism with his countrymen. Bancroft describes him as sordid and avaricious, smuggling goods and using every means to put money in his purse. By his townsmen he was named “Stingy Tommy.” He was a member of the Council, Commander of the Castle, Judge of Probate and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Dr. Franklin in 1772 obtained possession in England of some of Hutchinson’s confidential letters which he forwarded to this country. They showed that Hutchinson had advocated the most repressive measures by the home government. His advocacy of the Stamp Act aroused great indignation and on August 26, 1765, during the Stamp Act trouble, the mob attacked and sacked the Governor’s elegant mansion and destroyed its furniture. The Governor and his family escaped personal violence but he was compelled to open court next day without gown or wig, both having been destroyed by the mob. The Boston Massacre increased his unpopularity together with the Boston Tea Party. Governor Hutchinson received a pension and was reimbursed for his pecuniary loss, but he died, it is said, of a broken heart.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 14—RESIDENCE OF GOVERNOR LEVERETT
SEARS BUILDING, COURT STREET

JOHN LEVERETT.

Born: Boston, England, July 17, 1616.

Died: Boston, New England, March 16, 1679.

IN July, 1633, Thomas Leverett, "a plain man yet piously subtle" resigned, as alderman of his native borough, St. Botolph's, England, and brought his family to New England in the same ship with John Cotton. During the Civil War John returned to England and served as captain in Colonel Ramboron's regiment. After the war he came back to Boston and was thrice elected deputy to the General Court. In 1653 he returned to England and served under Cromwell and, as joint commander with Robert Sedgwick, conquered Acadia from the French in 1654, raising at his own expense troops for which the Lord Protector neglected to pay him. For a time he acted as agent for Massachusetts Bay to the Protectorate. After the Restoration he finally returned to Massachusetts, commanded the military forces of the Colony; served as assistant from 1665 to 1671; deputy governor 1671-1673, and succeeded Bellingham as Governor in 1673, an office which he held until his death March 16, 1679. His wisdom and military skill fitted him for leadership during King Philip's War, 1675-1676, and made him a popular Chief Magistrate. His service to the Colony during that desperate conflict can hardly be overestimated. His funeral was the occasion of great ceremony, only excelled in pomp by his epitaph which declares him to be:

"New England's Heroe, Mars his Generall,
Virtue's Standard-bearer and Learning's Glory."

Pathways of the Puritans. Published by Massachusetts
Bay Colony Tercentenary Commission, 1930.

SITE OF THE
FIRST MEETING HOUSE
IN DORCHESTER

1631

HERE WAS HELD THE
FIRST TOWN MEETING

1639

FIRST FREE SCHOOL
SUPPORTED BY DIRECT TAX

THIS TABLET PLACED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON

1930

TABLET NO. 15—FIRST MEETING HOUSE OF DORCHESTER
FIRST FREE SCHOOL OF DORCHESTER
CORNER OF PLEASANT AND EAST COTTAGE STREETS

FIRST MEETING HOUSE.

[DORCHESTER.]

THE first meeting house in Dorchester was built in 1631, and was situated near the corner of Pleasant and East Cottage Streets. It was a low building constructed of logs and thatch, surrounded by palisades. Military stores were deposited in it. Guns were mounted on the roof and a sentinel kept on guard. It served as a place of worship and as a defense against the Indians. The first day of the week the inhabitants held their meetings in it as a place of worship and on the second day their town meeting.

FIRST FREE SCHOOL OF DORCHESTER.

IN 1635 the General Court granted Thompson's Island in Boston Harbor to the inhabitants of the Town of Dorchester; four years later the town voted to lay a tax of twenty pounds upon the proprietors of this island, "for the maintenance of a school in Dorchester".

Good Old Dorchester. W. A. Orcutt.



SITE OF DATCHET HOUSE
BUILT ABOUT 1723
BY
COLONEL FRANCIS BRINLEY
HEADQUARTERS OF
GENERAL ARTEMUS WARD
AT THE SIEGE OF BOSTON

THE REFUGE OF THE SISTERS
FROM THE
URSULINE CONVENT
BURNT ON AUGUST 11, 1834

THIS TABLET IS PLACED
BY
THE CITY OF BOSTON
1930

TABLET NO. 16—DATCHET—BRINLEY HOUSE
MISSION CHURCH, TREMONT STREET, ROXBURY

THE DATCHET OR BRINLEY HOUSE.

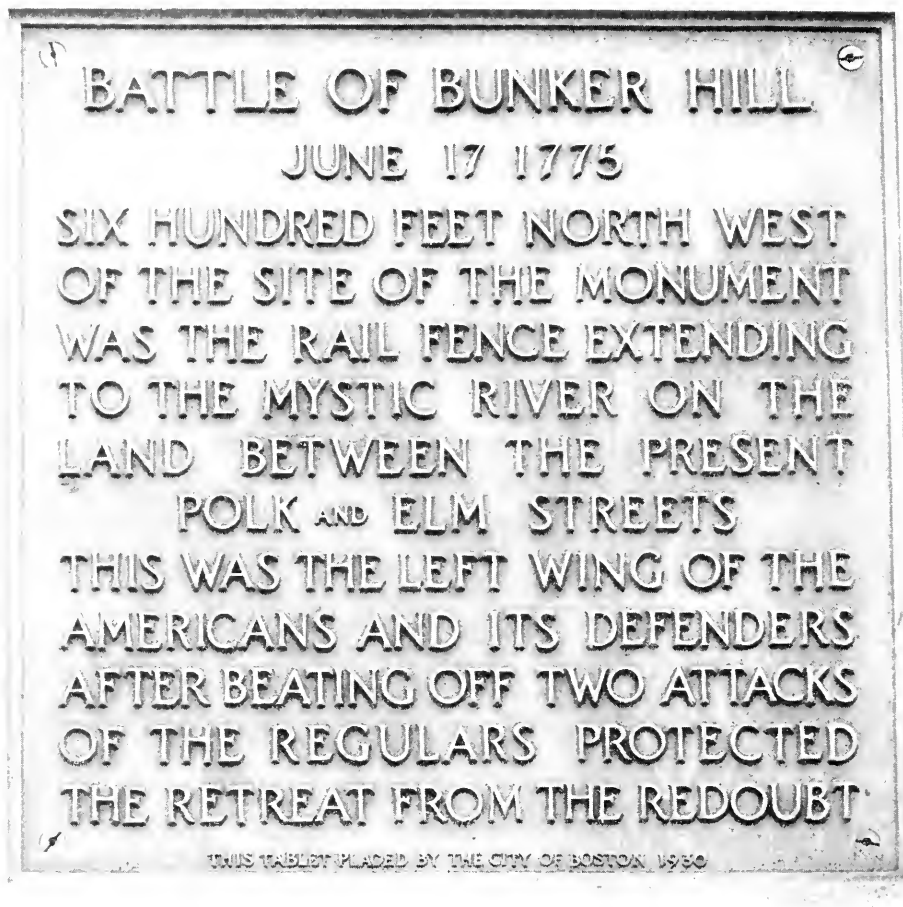
THIS house was built about the year 1723 by Colonel Francis Brinley. It was called the "Datchet House" by its owner, having been modelled after the family seat of the Brinleys at Datchet, England. In an early volume it is spoken of as of "remarkable magnificence" and as having been known as "Pierpont Castle." "It was situated in the midst of a large domain of park and wooded hills, and presented a picture of grandeur and stateliness not common in the New World." During the siege of Boston it was the headquarters of General Ward who commanded the right wing of the American Army. Here were held the councils of officers in which Washington and his generals participated.

General Henry Dearborn, one of Washington's generals and a most distinguished soldier of the Revolution, later became the owner of the Brinley House. He was at Lexington, at Valley Forge, at Monmouth and at Yorktown. One of the first acts of President Washington was to make him Marshal of Maine. He was a member of Congress and Secretary of War under Jefferson.

The Ursuline sisters, after their cruel expulsion from Mt. Benedict on the night of August 11, 1834, when a torch was applied to their convent by a cowardly mob of religious fanatics, occupied this house for about a year.

The estate was bought in September, 1869, by the Redemptorist Fathers. The cornerstone of the present magnificent church which graces this historical site was laid May 28, 1876, a little to the east of where the Brinley House stood.

The Town of Roxbury. Boston Records, 34th Report.



TABLET NO. 17 — THE RAIL FENCE
SCHOOL STREET, CHARLESTOWN

THE RAIL FENCE.

THE “rail fence”, which figured prominently in the Battle of Bunker Hill, was a double rail fence filled in between with freshly cut grass. It served more as a screen for the Continental troops behind it than as a defense. It was located on Breed’s Hill, one of the sloping elevations of Bunker Hill, toward the Mystic River. Speaking of the defenses here, Frothingham, in his “Siege of Boston”, says:

“In the meantime the Americans at the rail fence, under Stark, Reed, and Knowlton, reinforced by Clark’s and Chester’s Connecticut companies, Captain Harris’s company of Gardner’s regiment, Lieutenant-colonel Ward, and a few troops, maintained their ground with great firmness and intrepidity, and successfully resisted every attempt to turn their flank. This line, indeed, was nobly defended. The force here did a great service, for it saved the main body, who were retreating in disorder from the redoubt, from being cut off by the enemy.”

Siege of Boston. Frothingham.



TABLET NO. 18—THE NEW NORTH MEETING HOUSE
ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, HANOVER STREET

THE NEW NORTH MEETING HOUSE.

THE New North Church is one of the monuments still preserved in the North End. It was, at first, the meeting place of the Second Congregational Society. It was the second church erected in Boston. In 1714 the Congregationalists erected a small wooden building at the corner of Clark and North Streets "unassisted by the more wealthy part of the community except by their prayers and good will". In 1730 it was enlarged and in 1802 was rebuilt after the design of Charles Bulfinch. In 1805 a bell from the foundry of Paul Revere was placed in the tower. It is now St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church. It is one of the few remaining churches designed by Bulfinch.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 19 — BIRTHPLACE OF BULFINCH
NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH COMPANY BUILDING, BOWDOIN SQUARE

CHARLES BULFINCH.

ARCHITECT.

Born: Boston, August 8, 1763.

Died: Boston, April 15, 1844.

CHARLES Bulfinch, after graduating from Harvard College in 1781, developed a love for architecture which was further stimulated by study in France whither he went in 1785. Returning to Boston in 1787, he at once engaged in the practice of his profession, and, during a long career, designed very many of the beautiful buildings in Massachusetts and elsewhere. Prominent among these in Boston are the State House, the Massachusetts General Hospital and the State Prison. He also designed Faneuil Hall and the first Boston Theatre and the first Roman Catholic Cathedral now demolished. St. Stephen's Church on Hanover Street and the Old North Church were built after his designs. He was also prominent in civic affairs in Boston serving as Selectman from 1789 to 1793, and as Chairman of the board from 1797 to 1818, during which time the town made such progress that he has been called the Great Selectman. Bulfinch also resided in Washington from 1818 to 1830 as architect of the United States Capitol. He was the most famous architect of his day.

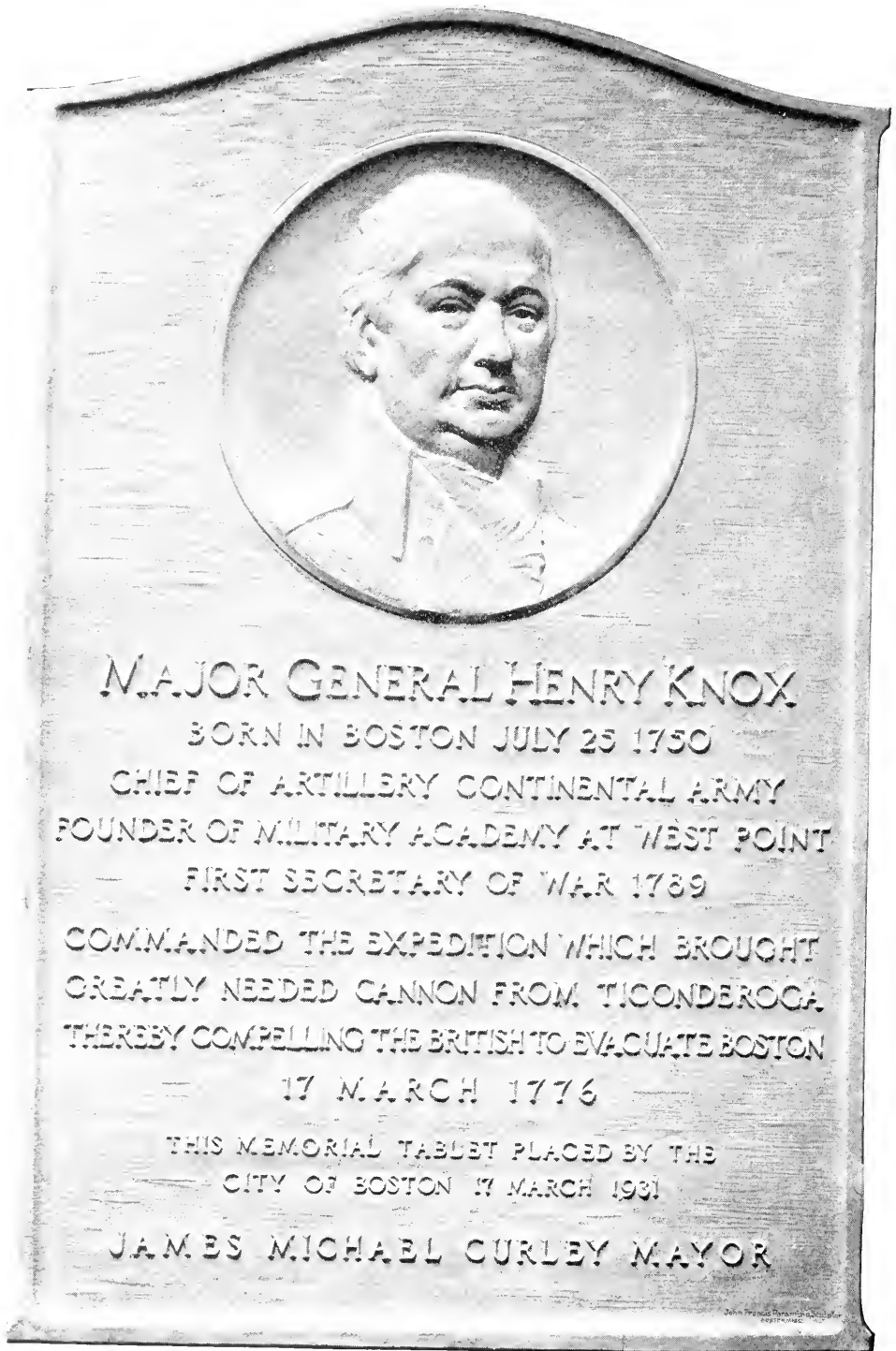
Taken in part from *Forty of Boston Immortals*.
Published by the State Street Trust Company, 1910.

He was also the architect and the designer of the monument which now marks the site of the beacon which in the early days stood on Beacon Hill. The tablets of slate on the pedestal bear inscriptions written by him, one of which is often quoted:

“Americans!
While from this eminence
Scenes of luxuriant fertility
Of flourishing commerce
And abodes of social happiness,
Meet your view,
Forget not those
Who, by their exertions,
Have secured to you
These blessings.”

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.

The site of the early Bulfinch House is now occupied by the building of the New England Telephone Company on Cambridge Street.



TABLET NO. 20 — MAJOR-GENERAL HENRY KNOX
ROXBURY STANDPIPE

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY KNOX.

Born: Boston, July 25, 1789.

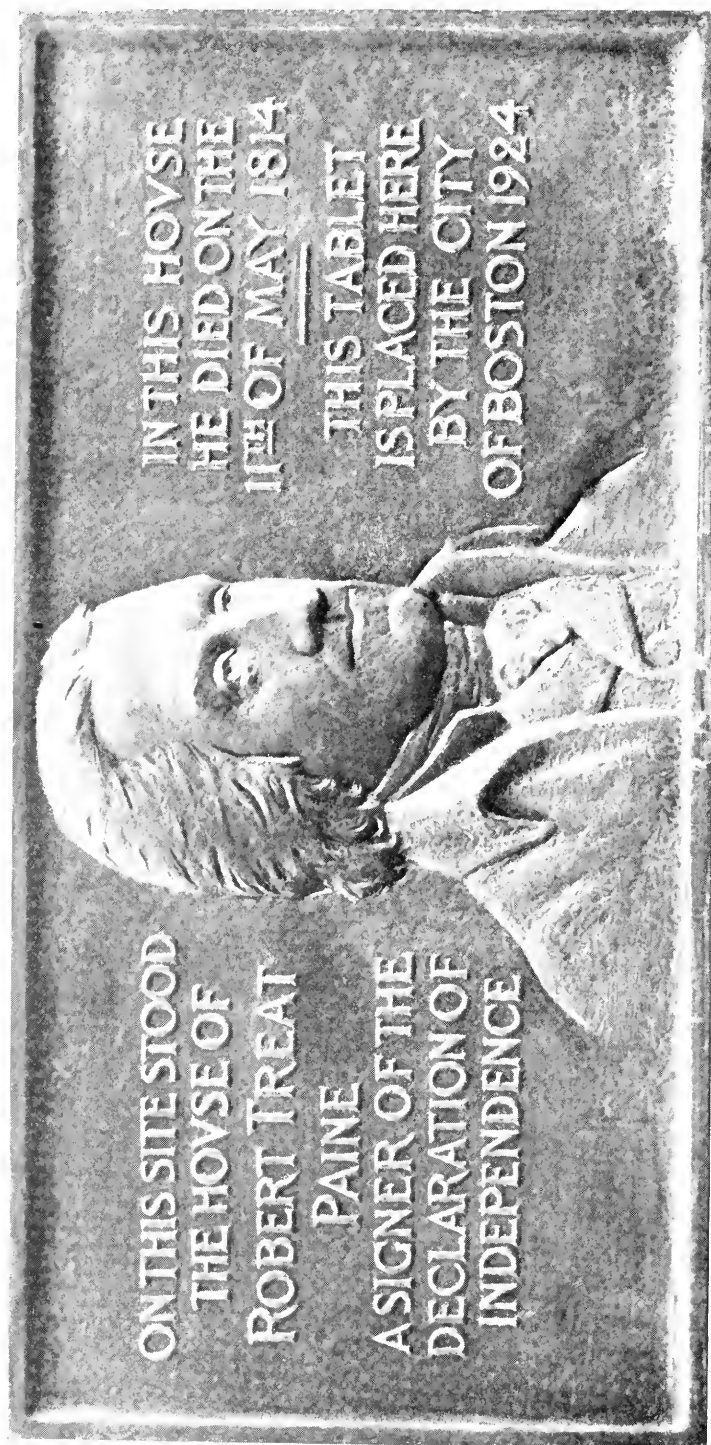
Died: Thomaston, Maine, October 25, 1806.

GENERAL Knox was one of the ablest generals of the Revolutionary Army. A native of Boston, his skill as an engineer was generally employed in the construction of the fortifications around Boston. His chief work was the construction of a redoubt crowning the hill at Roxbury known as Roxbury Fort, considered a marvel of construction in its day. He was with General Ward at Cambridge where he was engaged in reconnoitering service during the Battle of Bunker Hill. He was also with Washington and Lee at Cambridge. From Knox's batteries at Cobble Hill, Lechmere's Point and Roxbury Hill, General Thomas was able to begin a furious cannonade, thus gaining possession of Dorchester Heights, commanding the Town of Boston and forcing the evacuation by the British on March 17, 1776. Knox founded the "Order of Cincinnati."

From the very first campaign he was entrusted with the command of the artillery. One of his notable accomplishments was the transportation of more than fifty cannon and howitzers through the trackless wilderness in mid-winter from Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point, New York, to the Continental lines at Boston. This feat was performed early in 1776 by the use of ox-teams and sledges. This addition to the artillery strength of the Continental Army was largely instrumental in causing the evacuation of Boston by the British. General Knox was the first Secretary of War, and the founder of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Washington Irving says of him: "He was one of those providential characters which spring up in emergencies as if formed by and for the occasion."

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.
History of Roxbury. Boston Records, 34th Report



TABLET NO. 21—RESIDENCE OF ROBERT TREAT PAINE
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, MILK STREET

ROBERT TREAT PAINE.

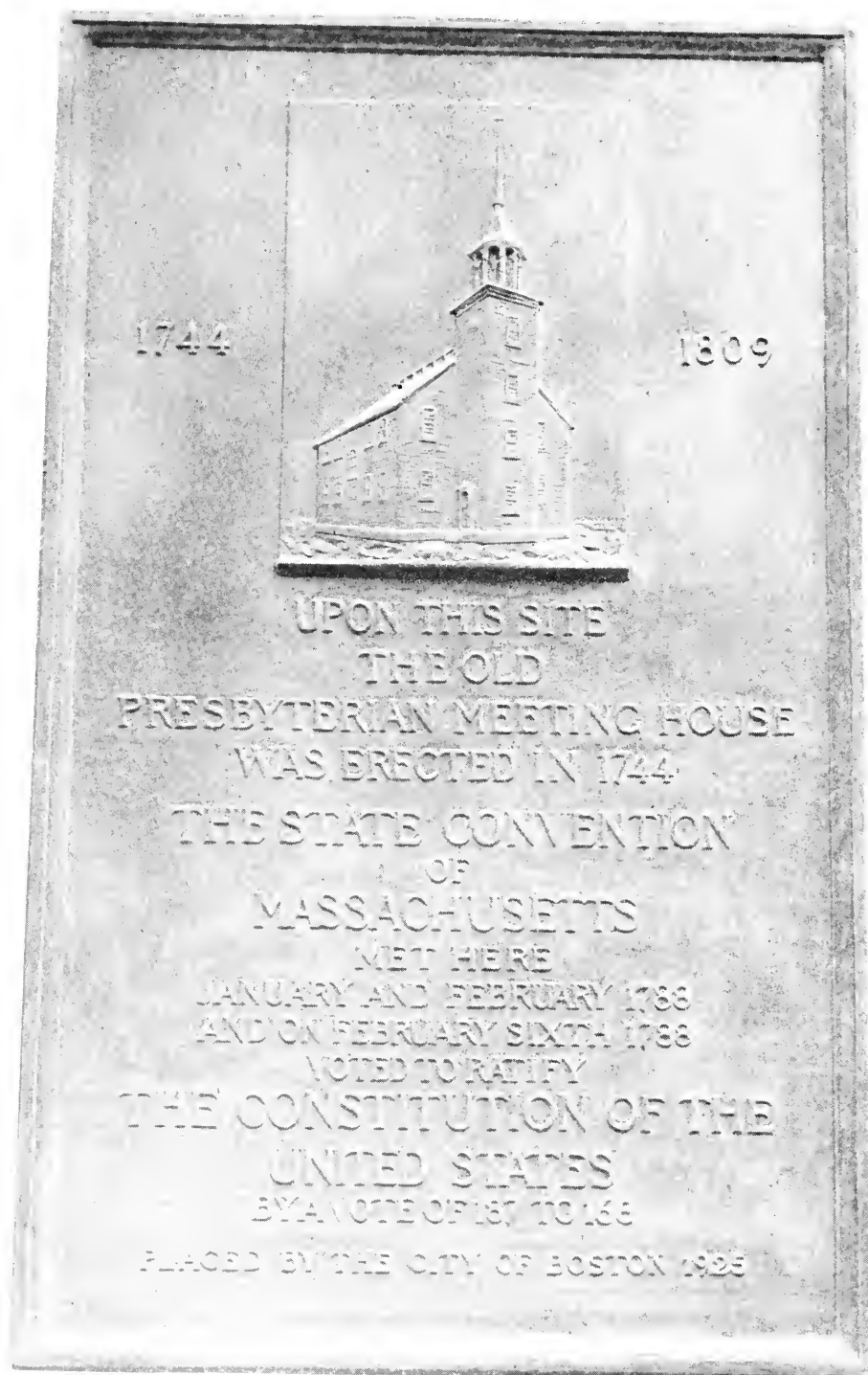
Born: Boston, March 11, 1731.

Died: Boston, May 11, 1814.

ROBERT Treat Paine, an eminent lawyer, judge and signer of our Magna Charta, lived in the house which stood on the west corner of Milk and Federal Streets. He was born in Boston, a graduate of Boston Latin School, a delegate to the Provincial Congress of 1774 at Philadelphia, and a member of the Continental Congress; he was the first Attorney-General of Massachusetts and a member of the Constitutional Convention and also a Judge of the Supreme Court. He was an able judge and a witty writer, a man beloved by his fellow citizens who honored him with many offices of high public trust. A brilliant son, Robert Treat the younger, panegyrized Washington in the following lyric:

“Should the tempest of war overshadow our land,
Its bolts could ne’er rend Freedom’s temple asunder;
For unmoved at its portal would Washington stand,
And repulse with his breast the assaults of the thunder.
His sword from the sleep of its scabbard would leap,
And conduct with its point every flash to the deep;
For ne’er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its waves.”

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 22 — FEDERAL STREET CHURCH
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING, FEDERAL STREET

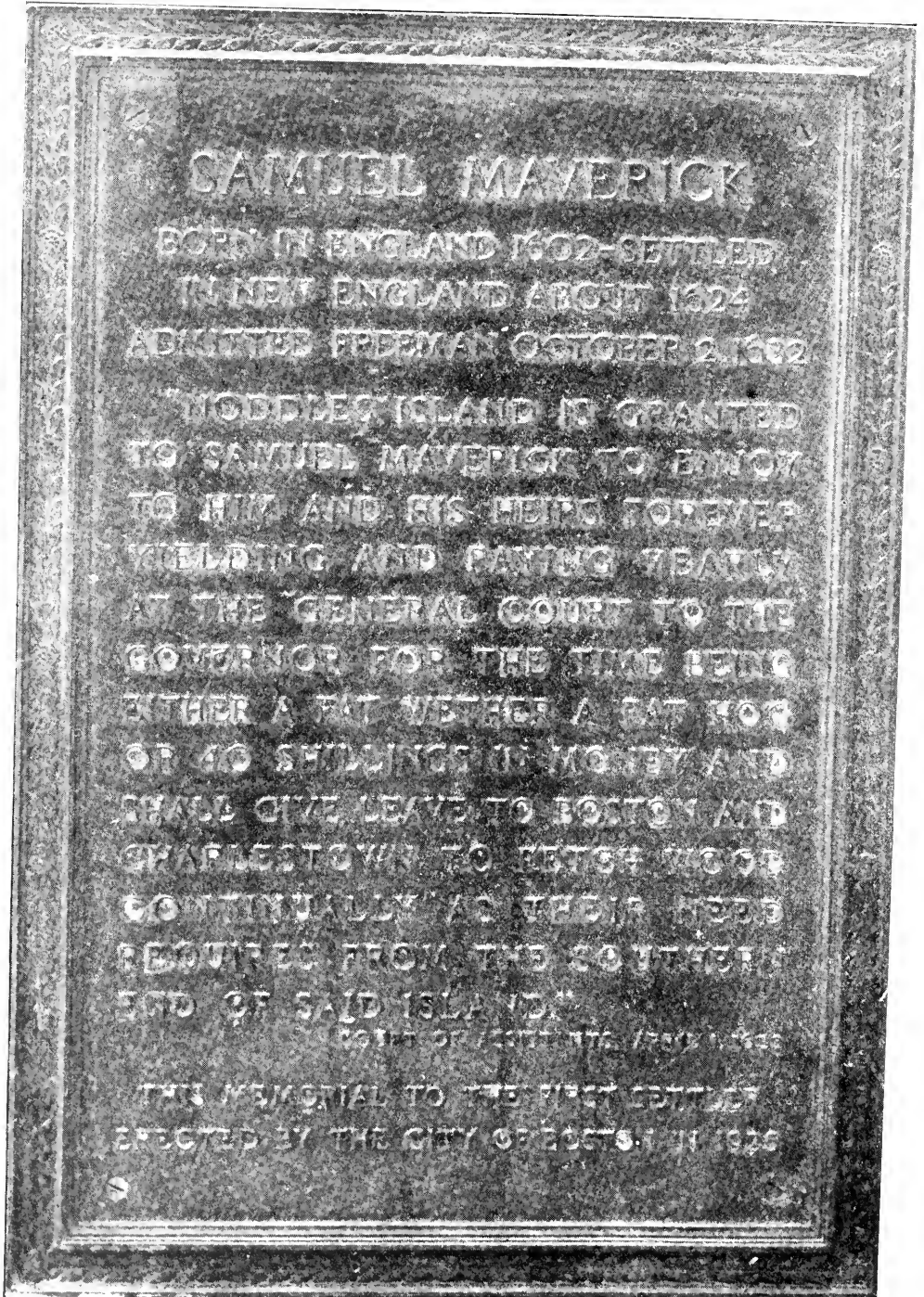
FEDERAL STREET CHURCH.

THE founders of this church were Irish Presbyterians and their house of worship was a barn which sufficed until they were able, in 1744, to build a wooden edifice. It was to this church that the Convention adjourned from the Old State House when it met to consider the adoption of the Federal Constitution, January 9, 1778. John Hancock was the President of the Convention and it was largely through his efforts that the instrument was adopted. An early quatrain runs thus:

“The ‘Vention did in Boston meet,
But State House could not hold ‘em;
So then they went to Federal Street,
And there the truth was told ‘em.”

Long Lane, which was the early name of the street, was changed to Federal in honor of the event.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 23—SAMUEL MAVERICK
 MAVERICK SQUARE, EAST BOSTON

SAMUEL MAVERICK.

[THE FOUNDER OF EAST BOSTON.]

Born: Devon, England, 1602.

Died: New York, 1676.

EAST Boston was first named Noddle's Island, receiving its name from William Noddle, whom Winthrop called "an honest man from Salem". When Noddle went back to live at Salem, Dr. Samuel Maverick was by Act of the General Court given a grant of the Island on April 1, 1633. The Island originally contained about six hundred sixty-three acres together with the contiguous flats to the low water mark, comprising several hundred acres in extent.

Samuel Maverick was born in England in 1602, and came to New England in 1623. He was at that time a young man of fortune and education. On the breaking up of the colony at Weymouth in 1624, Maverick settled in Chelsea, where he built "the first permanent house in the Bay Colony", fortifying it in 1625. In 1630 he applied for admission to the Massachusetts Company, and on October 2, 1632, took the freeman's oath at Charlestown. In 1633 the General Court confirmed his title to Noddle's Island for a yearly contribution, and he moved thither in 1634, having sold the greater part of his land in Chelsea to Richard Bellingham. Maverick built a large mansion on the Island, and also a fort which was armed with four guns. In 1644 he was made the King's Commissioner, a very important office.

Negro slavery appeared in Boston as early as 1638, at which time at least three slaves were held by Maverick. In 1664 he removed to New York, and for his fidelity to the Crown was presented by the Duke of York with a house in the "Broadway". This house was sold by his trustees in May, 1676, for the benefit of his daughter Mary. In 1733 East Boston became a part of Boston.



TABLET NO. 24—BUNCH OF GRAPES TAVERN
 CORNER OF STATE AND KILBY STREETS

BUNCH OF GRAPES TAVERN.

THIS tavern goes back to the year 1712. From that time until after the Revolution it appears to have been open as a public inn. In July, 1773, the first Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in America was formed here by Henry Price, a Boston tailor, who had received authority from Lord Montague, Grand Master of England.

After the evacuation of Boston this tavern became the center of public demonstrations. General Washington was handsomely entertained here. Later, after hearing the Declaration of Independence read from the balcony of the Town-House on July 18, 1776, the populace proceeded to pull down from the public buildings the royal arms which had distinguished them and gathering them in a heap on the street in front of the tavern made a bonfire of them. After the victory of Bennington, August 16, 1777, General Stark was entertained here. General Lafayette also was received at this tavern. Here was conceived the formation of the Ohio Company under which the opening up of the West began, the first settlement being made at Marietta, Ohio, under the leadership of General Rufus Putnam, a cousin of the more distinguished Revolutionary General of that name. After the siege of Boston, Washington and his troops were entertained here.



THE LAFAYETTE MALL

THIS MALL NAMED IN HONOR OF MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE
DISTINGUISHED FRENCH SOLDIER
MAJOR-GENERAL IN THE WAR OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
AND ILLUSTRIOUS PATRIOT OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION
WHO NOBLY SERVED THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY ON TWO CONTINENTS
INVITED BY ACT OF CONGRESS TO REVISIT THE UNITED STATES
AS A GUEST OF THE NATION IN 1824

HE WAS WELCOMED WITH SIGNAL HONOR
AS HE PASSED ALONG THIS MALL
HE LAID THE CORNER-STONE OF BUNKER HILL MONUMENT
JUNE 17, 1825

"HEAVEN SAW FIT TO ORDAIN THAT THE ELECTRIC
SPARK OF LIBERTY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED THROUGH
YOU FROM THE NEW WORLD TO THE OLD"

ERECTED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON 1924

TABLET NO. 25 — GENERAL LAFAYETTE
LAFAYETTE MALL, BOSTON COMMON

THE MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE.

[DISTINGUISHED SOLDIER OF TWO CONTINENTS.]

Born: Auvergne, France, September 6, 1757.

Died: Paris, May 20, 1834.

A YOUNG French officer of noble and wealthy parentage, serving with his regiment at Metz, a garrisoned town of France, was deeply stirred by the struggle of the American colonists. After reading the Declaration of Independence, he resolved to enlist in their cause;—and so deep was his interest that he purchased a vessel out of his own funds to transport himself and his friends, among whom was De Kalb, later also to become an American General. In the summer of 1777, Lafayette and his friends landed on the coast of South Carolina, near Georgetown. The young officer's introduction to Washington soon followed, and the latter was so impressed by his credentials that he immediately made Lafayette a member of his staff. He made two requests of Washington, one to serve at his own expense, and the other to serve as a volunteer. Struck by his humility, Congress voted him a commission on July 31, 1777, as Major General in the Continental Army. Lafayette at that time lacked but one month of being twenty years of age. From that time until the surrender of Cornwallis, at Yorktown, in 1781, with the exception of a few months leave to visit his wife in France, he was constantly in the service of the Continental Army. He was with Washington during the terrible winter at Valley Forge, and in every major campaign of the Revolution. After the fall of Yorktown, he was granted leave of absence by Congress to visit his family in France. Congress not only granted him an indefinite leave, but also directed:

“That the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America at the Court of Versailles be directed to cause an elegant sword with proper devices to be made and presented in the name of the United States to the Marquis de la Fayette.”

Thus at the age of twenty-five his services in the War of the Revolution ended. Upon his return to France he became leader of the Constitutionalists in the French Revolution, and after the fall of the Bastille on July 14, 1789, he was thrown into prison. Many of his immediate relatives were guillotined by the Commune, and Madame de la Fayette and her

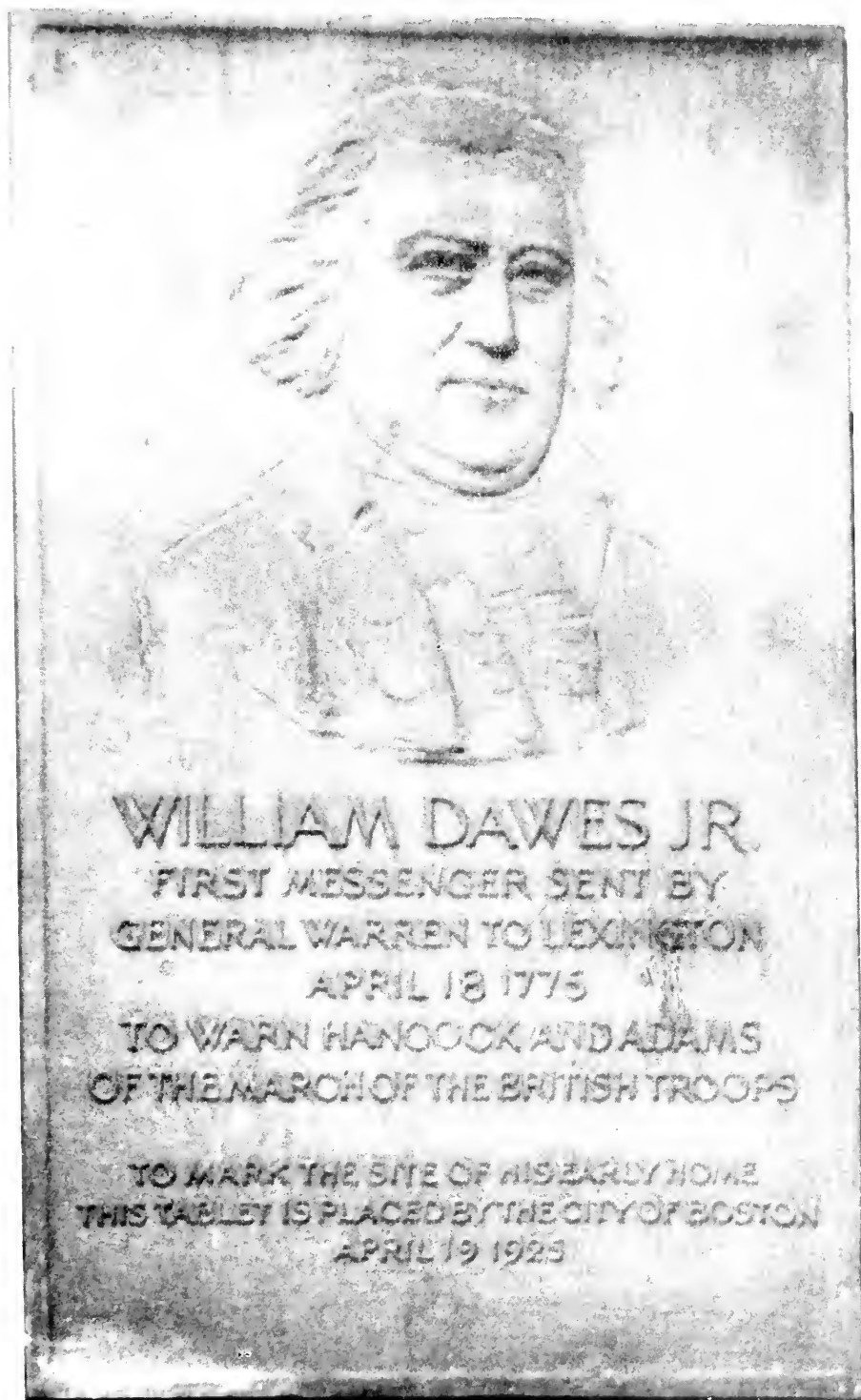
children would have been executed but for the intervention of Gouverneur Morris, American Minister to France. After two years' imprisonment, Lafayette was released by order of Napoleon Bonaparte, who returned from Egypt in 1799, seized the government from the Directory, and declared himself First Consul.

Lafayette returned to the United States as guest of the Nation in 1824 and was everywhere received with joyous acclaim. His reception on Boston Common was an occasion of special splendor. On Monday, August 30, a great military review took place on the Common. Two hundred tents were pitched for the accommodation of officers and their guests, and a great marquee erected for the shelter of twelve hundred persons at dinner. The school children of Boston joined in a joyous choral welcome. On June 17, 1825, he was present at the laying of the cornerstone of Bunker Hill Monument.

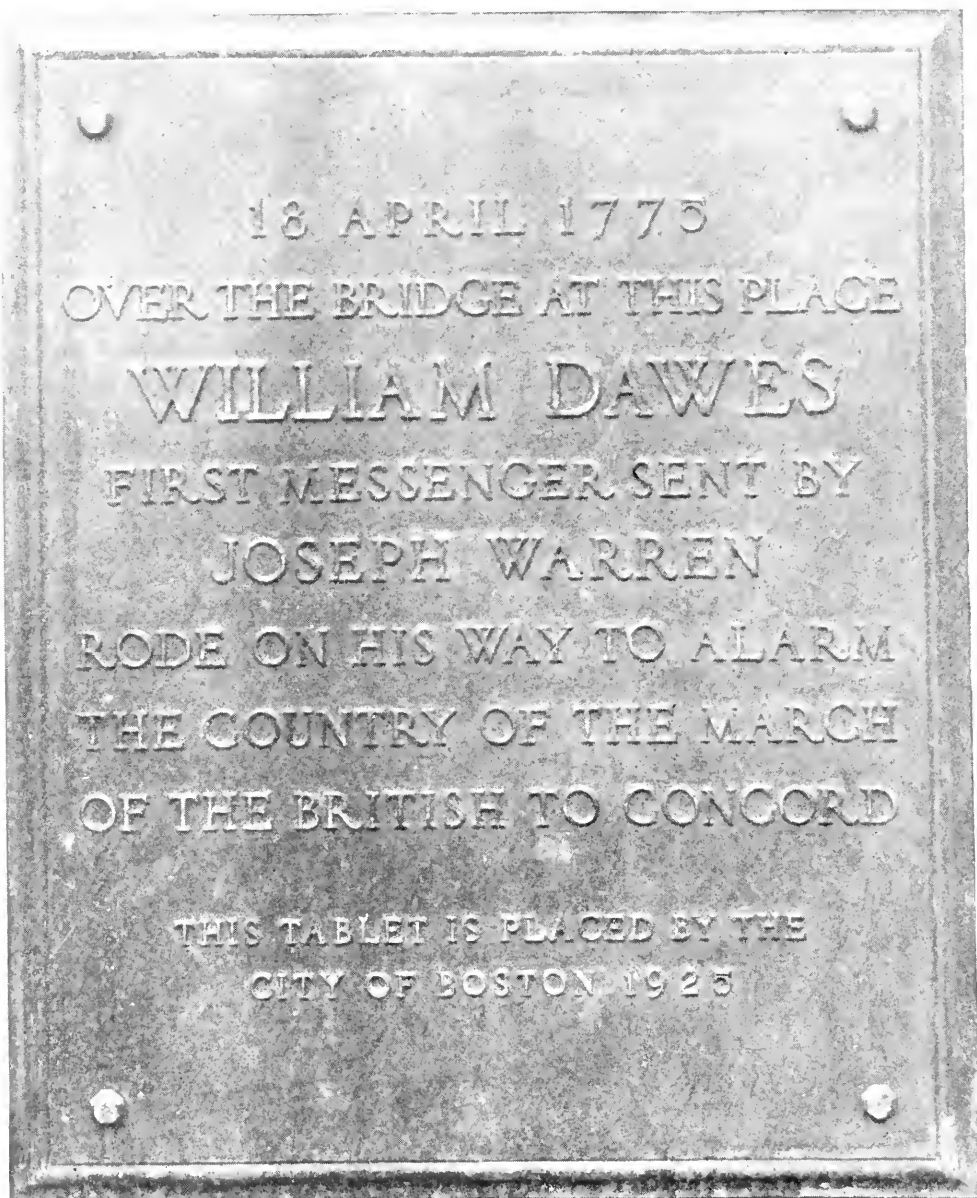
Upon his death in France, Congress and the people adopted a badge of mourning, and the Army and Navy paid to his memory the same honors as had been paid to Washington. His high and unwavering devotion to the oppressed of two continents gained for him a place in the affections of his contemporaries and the regard of succeeding generations which transcends political sovereignty.

"Heaven saw fit to ordain that the electric spark of liberty should be conducted through you from the New World to the Old."

Oration at Laying of the Cornerstone of Bunker
Hill Monument. Daniel Webster.



TABLET NO. 26 — RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM DAWES
16 NORTH STREET, NORTH END



TABLET NO. 27 — RIDE OF WILLIAM DAWES
LARZ ANDERSON BRIDGE, CAMBRIDGE

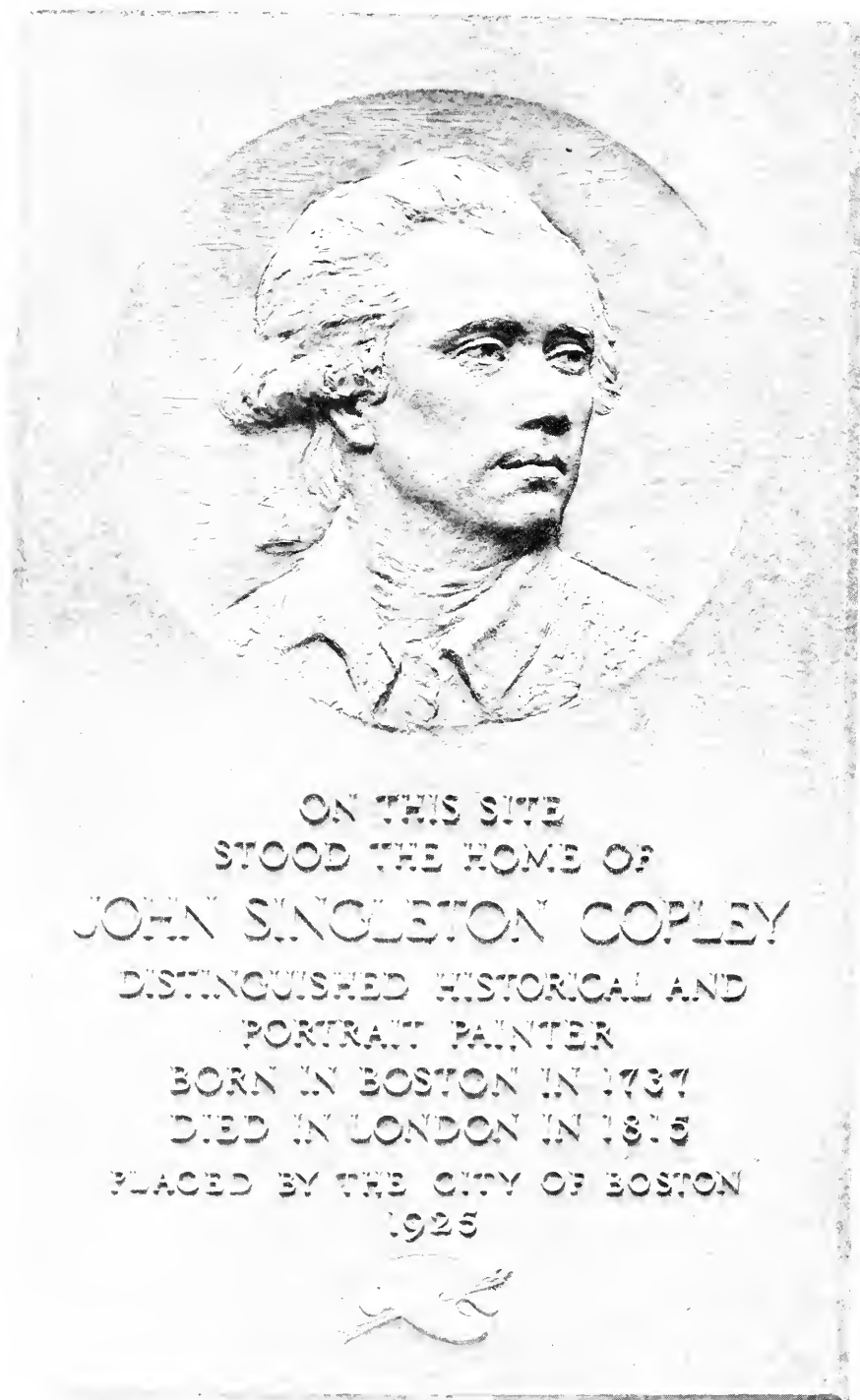
WILLIAM DAWES.

Born: Sudbury, England, April 6, 1745.

Died: Boston, Massachusetts, February 25, 1799.

ON April 18, 1775, Warren sent William Dawes by land over the Neck to Roxbury and thence to Lexington to spread the alarm of the British expedition to Concord. Paul Revere had arranged to have lantern signals shown in the belfry of the Old North Church "one if by land and two if by sea." Then Revere went home, changed his clothes for a midnight ride, and taking a boat rowed to Charlestown. Arriving at Charlestown, Revere secured a horse and waited. At eleven o'clock two lights gleamed from the belfry. He reached Lexington and was there joined by Dawes who had come over Boston Neck through Roxbury and Cambridge, crossing the Charles River on a bridge which stood where the Larz Anderson Bridge is now located, near the Harvard Stadium. At Lexington, Dawes and Revere were joined by Dr. Samuel Prescott and after a short delay the three started for Concord. They had ridden but a short distance when they were met by British officers. Prescott's horse jumped a wall. Prescott escaped taking a familiar path to carry the news to Concord. Dawes turned suddenly and made his way to Boston. Revere was seized and held until next morning, when he was released. He quietly returned to Lexington, to join Hancock and Adams, and induced them to return to Woburn. The memorable ride has been praised in song and story, but the point to be remembered is that they aroused the countryside and defeated the British plans.

Story of the Revolution. Henry Cabot Lodge.
C. F. Adams in *Proceedings of the Massachusetts
Historical Society.* Second series. XX. 581.



TABLET NO. 28 — RESIDENCE OF JOHN SINGLETON COPLEY
SOMERSET CLUB BUILDING, BEACON STREET

JOHN SINGLETON COPLEY.

Born: Boston, Massachusetts, July 3, 1737, or 1738.

Died: London, England, September 9, 1815.

JOHN Singleton Copley acquired fame in his native town while yet a young man and painted many portraits of Bostonians of prominence, notably those of John Adams, Samuel Adams and John Hancock. The latter two now hang in Faneuil Hall. The portrait of Samuel Adams has been called Copley's masterpiece. In 1774 Copley went to Italy to pursue his studies and two years later became a permanent resident of London, England. He was befriended there by Benjamin West, the American painter, whose influence was of great assistance to him. Copley was renowned for his historical paintings and his portraits of eminent men. He was made a Royal Academician in 1789. His son, John Singleton Copley, became Lord Lyndhurst and was twice Lord Chancellor of England. Copley is commemorated in his native Boston by the square which bears his name.

Forty of Boston's Immortals. 1910. Published
by the State Street Trust Company.
Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



ON THIS SITE STOOD THE RESIDENCE OF
 JEAN LEFEBVRE DE CHEVERUS
 FIRST ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP
 OF BOSTON
 BELOVED BY PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC ALIKE
 BORN IN FRANCE 1768
 MADE BISHOP 1808
 RECALLED TO FRANCE IN 1828
 LATER MADE CARDINAL ARCHBISHOP
 OF BORDEAUX WHERE HE DIED IN 1836
 "HIS THOUGHTS WERE AS A PYRAMID UPHELD
 ON WHOSE FAR TOP AN ANGEL STOOD AND SMILED
 YET IN HIS HEART HE WAS A CHILD"

THIS TABLET PLACED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON
 1925

John F. Donahue, S. J. - artist

TABLET NO. 29 — RESIDENCE OF BISHOP CHEVERUS
 222 DEVONSHIRE STREET

JEAN LEFEBVRE DE CHEVERUS.

[FIRST ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF BOSTON.]

Born: Matenne, France, January 18, 1768.

Died: Bordeaux, France, July 19, 1836.

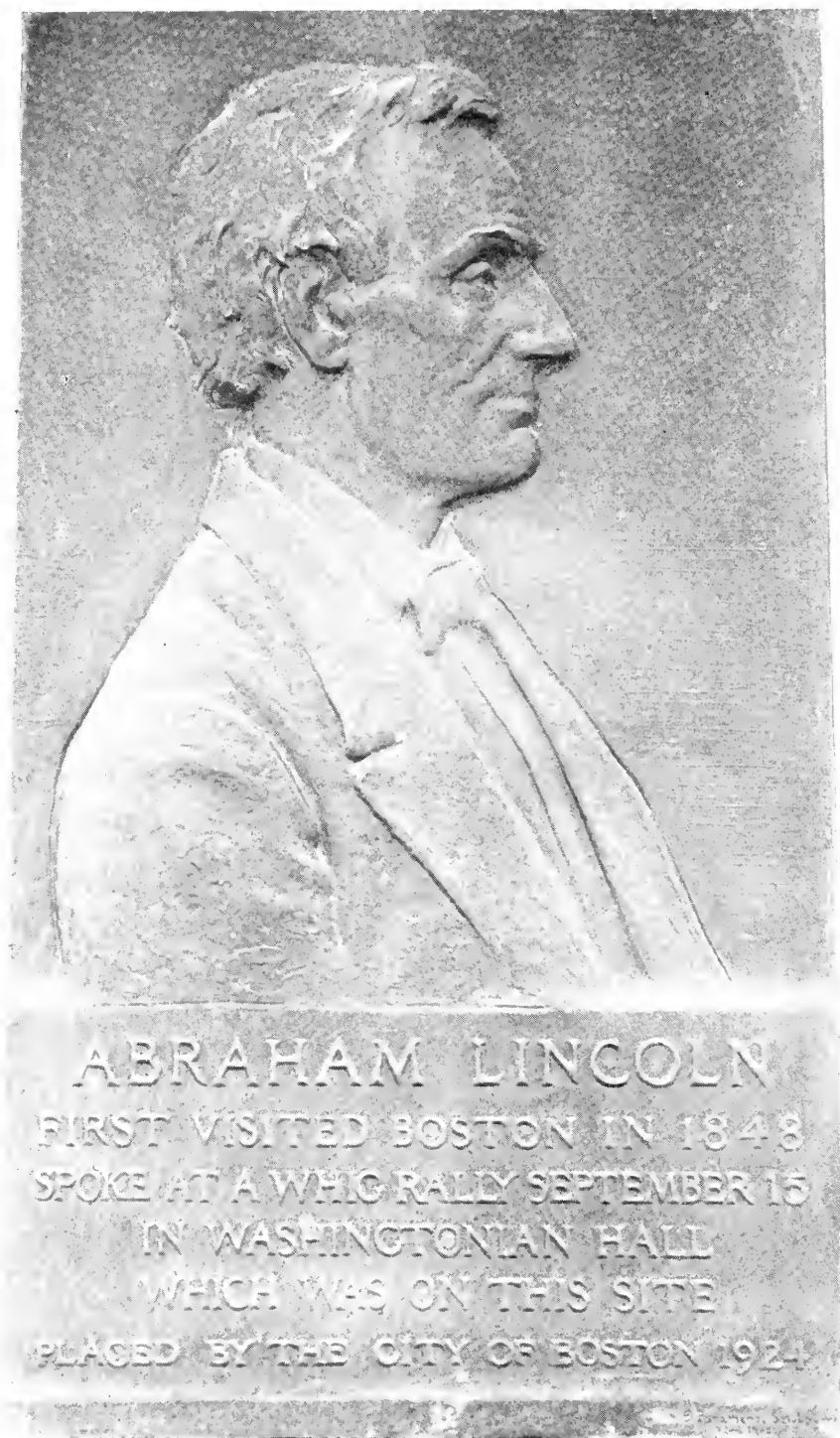
JEAN Lefebvre de Cheverus, born of a distinguished family, was educated in his native city, Matenne, and in Paris, France. He was ordained in Paris just before the Revolution, but left his native land on account of the existing disorder. After a residence in London, England, he came to Boston in 1796, and with the Reverend Father Matignon ministered to the spiritual needs of the Catholic congregation here. During his residence in Boston he was beloved by the Protestants and the Catholics alike, and the former contributed largely for the Catholic cathedral erected in 1803. He was made first Roman Catholic Bishop of Boston in 1808. Recalled to France, Bishop Cheverus was made Bishop of Montauban in 1825, Archbishop of Bordeaux in 1826, and Cardinal in 1836.

"Bishop Cheverus was not merely a good man;— he was a great man. Boston esteemed him highly. The veneration in which he was held by the citizens of Boston of all religious faiths is evidenced by the remonstrance against his translation from Boston signed by more than two hundred Protestants, couched in the following words:

"‘We hold him to be a blessing and a treasure in our social community, which we cannot part with, and which without injustice to any man, we may affirm, if withdrawn from us, can never be replaced.’

"On his departure from Boston, three hundred carriages and other vehicles escorted him several miles on the road to New York, where he was to embark."

My Unknown Chum. "Aguecheek."



TABLET NO. 30 — ABRAHAM LINCOLN
CORNER OF BROMFIELD AND PROVINCE STREETS

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Born: Kentucky, February 12, 1809.

Died: Washington, D. C., April 15, 1865.

A BRAHAM Lincoln's only political visit to Boston was on September 15, 1848, during the campaign of General Zachary Taylor, who was the candidate on the Whig ticket for President of the United States. The "Great Emancipator" was a Whig member of Congress from Illinois at the time. Lincoln spoke here under the auspices of the Young Men's Whig Club, in a hall on Bromfield Street, known as Washingtonian Hall and at Tremont Temple, on September 22nd. On that visit Lincoln also spoke at Dedham and several other nearby towns.



TABLET NO. 31 — FRIGATE CONSTITUTION
409 COMMERCIAL STREET

THE FRIGATE "CONSTITUTION."

[*"OLD IRONSIDES."*]

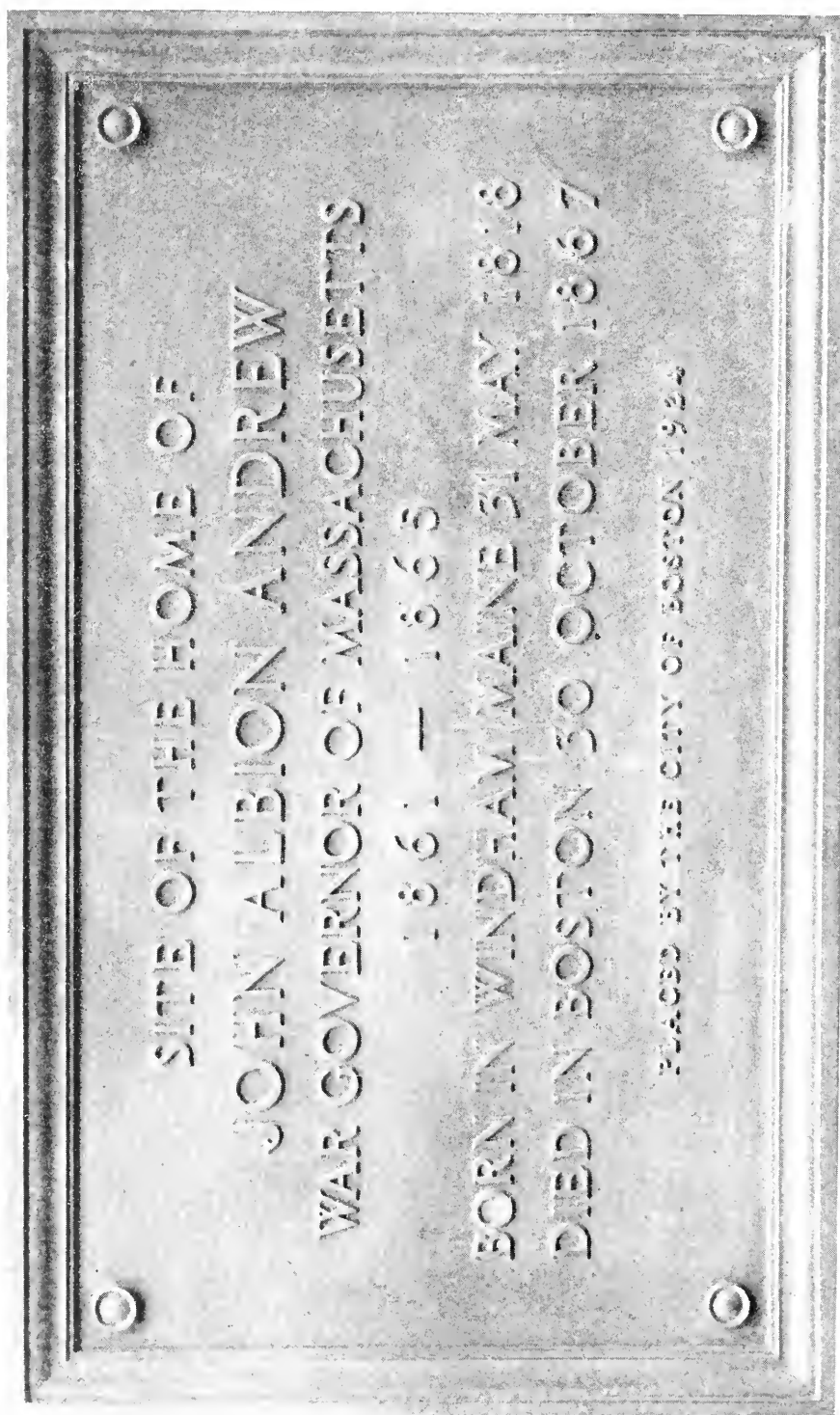
"Come all ye Yankee heroes, come listen to my song,
I'll tell you of a bloody fight before that it be long,
It was the Constitution, from Boston she set sail,
To cruise along the coast, my boys, our rights for to maintain."

MUCH has been written of the Frigate *Constitution*, "Old Ironsides", as she was familiarly known. No ship ever saw so much action. None had such a romantic history. No ship was ever so beloved by a nation, not even the famous old *Victory* of Nelson. "Old Ironsides" has been rebuilt several times, and again only recently, but the original model, tonnage and general appearance have been retained. She is preserved today as the palladium of the early glory of the American Navy. The *Constitution* was launched on October 2, 1797, at Hartt's Naval Yard, now occupied by Constitution Wharf on Atlantic Avenue. Her length was one hundred and seventy-five feet; she carried forty-four guns; had a crew of four hundred and forty-four men; a tonnage of 1,576 tons, and cost \$302,719.

She was distinctly a Boston ship. Paul Revere furnished the copper bolts and spikes made by a process known only to him; her sails, the duck for which was manufactured by a company which had a shop at the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, were made at the Old Granary which stood on the site of the present Park Street Church; her anchors were made at Hanover, Massachusetts; her masts and spars were fashioned in the yard between Comey's Wharf and the shipyard; Ephraim Thayer, who had a shop at the South End, made the gun carriages.

She was commanded at various times by many famous officers of the United States Navy. During her active service she captured eight armed vessels carrying one hundred fifty-eight guns and ten unarmed vessels. One of her most famous exploits was the capture of the *Guerriere*, in the War of 1812. Her glorious career during the years immediately preceding and following the War of 1812 was chiefly responsible for the downfall of England's supremacy on the seas at that time. The *Constitution* has been popularly named the "Pride of the American Navy."

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.
Some Interesting Boston Events. Published by
the State Street Trust Company, 1916.



TABLET NO. 32 — GOVERNOR ANDREW'S RESIDENCE
110 CHARLES STREET

JOHN ALBION ANDREW.

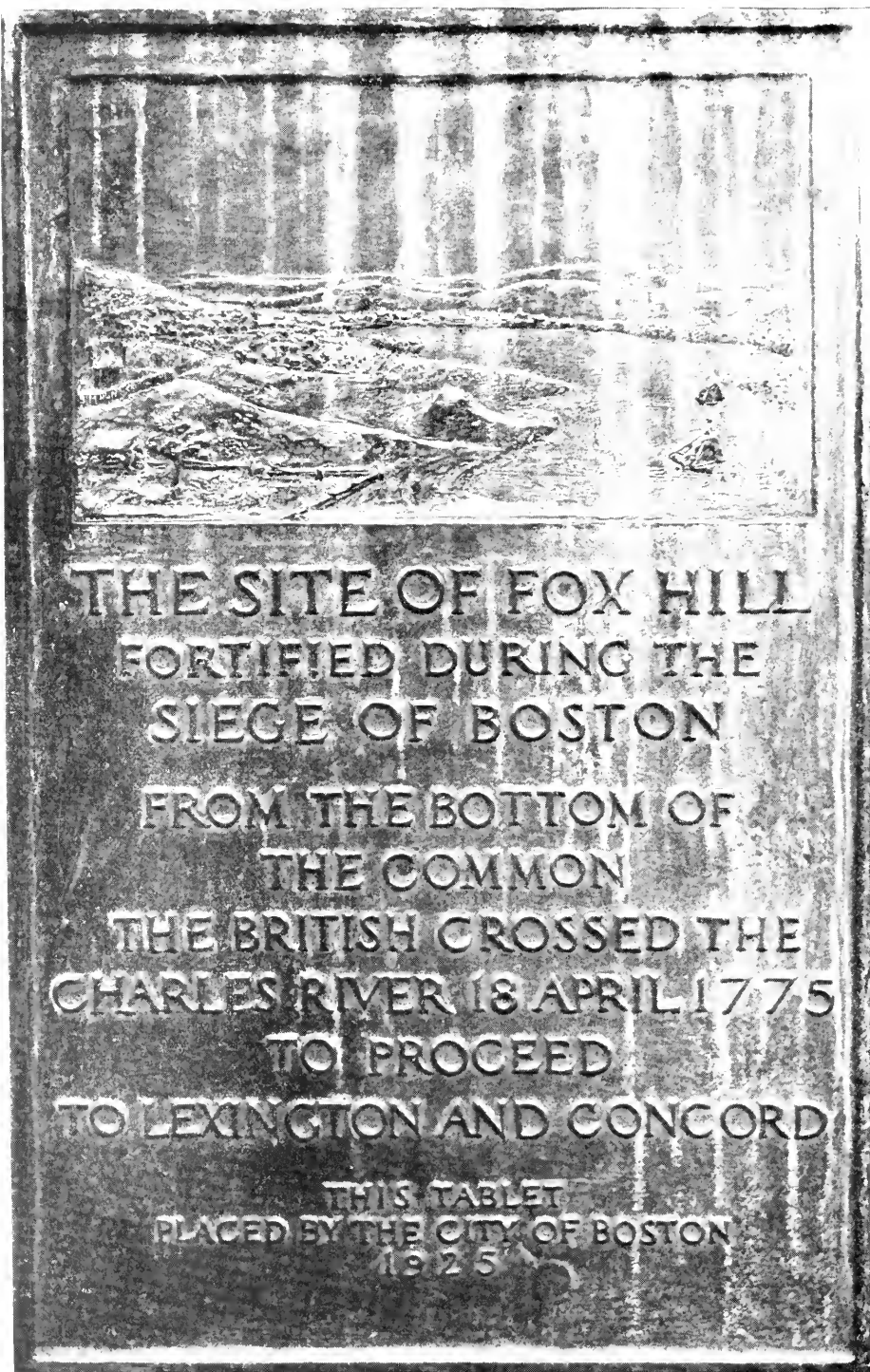
[WAR GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.]

Born: Windham, Maine, May 11, 1818.

Died: Boston, Massachusetts, October 30, 1867.

JOHN Albion Andrew, after his graduation at Bowdoin College in 1837, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1840. He early became interested in the anti-slavery movement in Massachusetts and rendered legal service in fugitive slave cases. Having served in the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, and as a delegate to the Republican Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency, in 1860, he was elected in the latter year Governor of Massachusetts. His services as Governor from 1861 to 1865, embracing the period of the Civil War, were discharged with the utmost fidelity. He was often a counsellor of President Lincoln in affairs of state. Governor Andrew practically gave his life to the cause of the suppression of slavery. He died less than three years after the close of the Civil War. His residence was at 110 Charles Street.

Forty Boston Immortals. Published by the
State Street Trust Company 1910.



TABLET NO. 33 — FOX HILL
BOSTON COMMON, CHARLES STREET

FOX HILL.

ON the west side of the Common in the early days was the low marshy land bordering on the water, on part of which was Fox Hill, where now is the Public Garden. Nearly the whole extent of the grounds was occupied by rope walks, five in number. As one passed along Charles Street, going toward Beacon, these rope walks stretched to the water which washed Charles Street. The land whereon they were situated was marsh or flats, which indeed was the condition of nearly all of that low ground now known as the parade ground of the Common. At high tide most of the land was overflowed. On the verge of it was the little elevation known as Fox Hill, upon which was a small redoubt, and which was at times quite or nearly surrounded by water. Fox Hill has long since been levelled to fill in the marsh. The British embarked at the foot of the hill to cross the Charles River on their expedition to Concord and Lexington, April 18, 1775.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.
Topographical Description of Boston. Shurtleff.



TABLET NO. 34 — BLAXTON'S (BLACKSTONE'S) HOUSE
 50 BEACON STREET

WILLIAM BLAXTON.

[THE FIRST CHURCHMAN OF BOSTON AND FIRST SETTLER.]

Born: England, 1595.

Died: Lonsdale, Rhode Island, May 26, 1675.

FINALLY at the foot of Beacon Hill there was the homestead of the Rev. William Blaxton, the first white settler of Boston. This spelling of his name is unfamiliar, but it is his own as is witnessed by his signatures upon the records of Emmanuel College, at Cambridge, on the occasions when he received his degrees. Some three years after the coming of Winthrop and his company, at Blaxton's invitation, to live on this side of the Charles, the Colony took a formal title from Blaxton to the entire peninsula excepting fifty acres, which he reserved for his son. Thus the people of Boston came into possession of Boston Common at a cost of thirty pounds. The following year he sold to the town the remaining fifty acres, except six acres on part of which his house then stood.

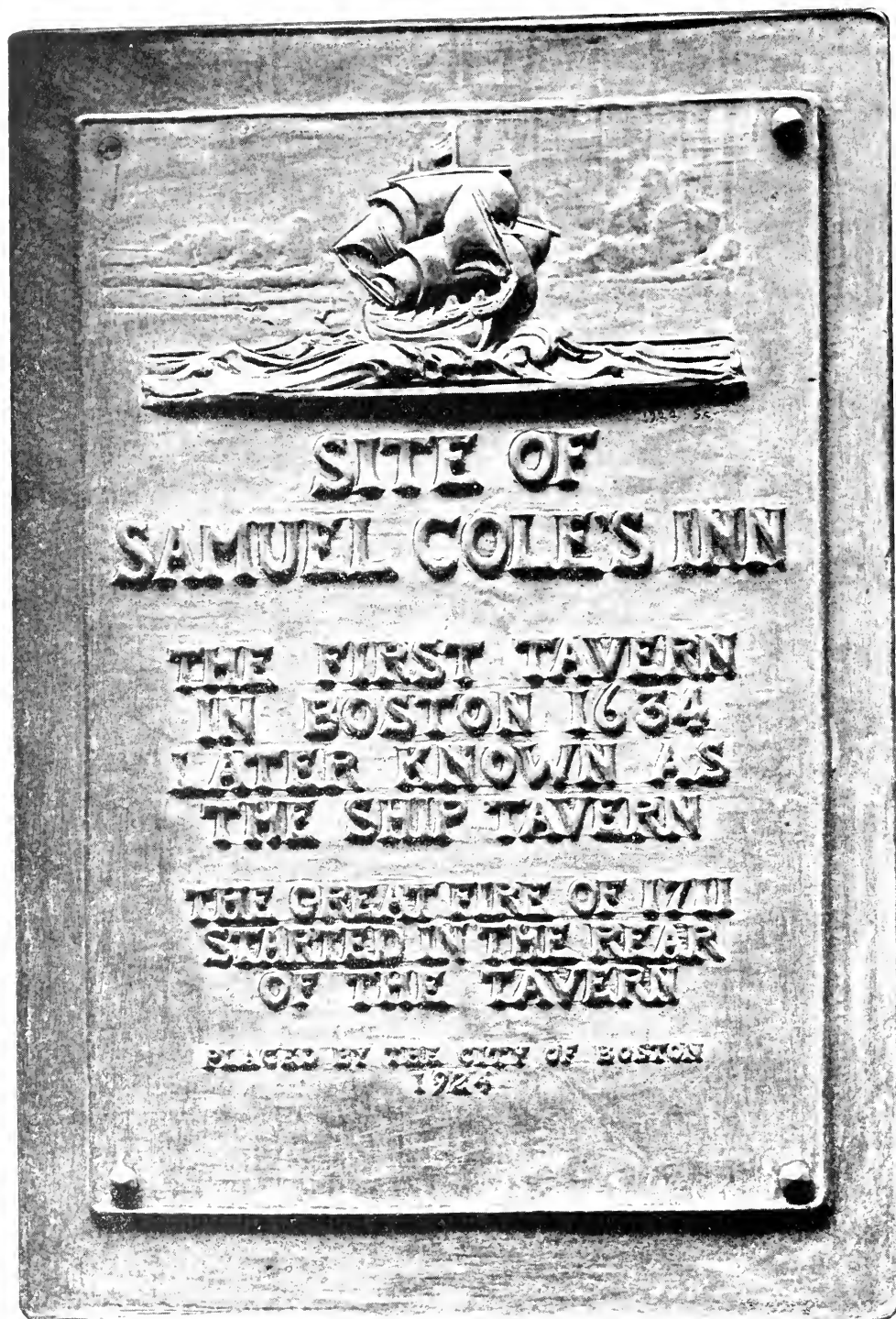
Allen Chamberlain's *Beacon Hill*.

The date of Blaxton's settlement is supposed to have been 1625 and it is not known definitely where his house stood, but historical authorities generally agree that it was somewhere on the back slope of Beacon Hill and not far from Spruce Street. Blaxton was in advance of his age. Within and without the church he saw intolerance and to avoid the high-minded tyranny of the Lord-Bishop of England, he crossed the ocean and sought refuge among the cloisters of New England forests. Blaxton remained in Boston about ten years, but after the coming of Winthrop and his company, not liking the close proximity of his Puritan neighbors, he removed in 1634 to a place called by him Study Hill, now Rehoboth, Rhode Island, where he spent his remaining days in peace with his family. He is reported to have said that he left England because of his dislike for the Lord-Bishop, but now he would not be under the Lord's brethren. He was a kindly, tolerant man, much interested in the welfare of his fellow citizens, as was instanced by his invitation to Winthrop and his band of followers whom he invited to come and live in Shawmut in 1630. He planted the first orchard in New England on his estate. As he was the first white settler of Boston, so was he also the first white settler of Rhode Island.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.
Topographical Description of Boston. Shurtleff.

Blaxton was no ordinary man. The glimpses we have of his character prove that he possessed qualifications which, under other circumstances, might have made him one of the foremost men of New England. His library, consisting of nearly two hundred volumes, including some Latin works, proving his propensities for study, was burned by the Indians in 1676, just a few months after his death, May 26, 1675, at what is now Lonsdale, Rhode Island. His motto was "Toleration" at a time when intolerance prevailed, and his biographer has said of him that he stood

"Like some tall rock in the sea, whose summit is bathed in untroubled light, while tumultuous waves beat below."



TABLET NO. 35 — COLE'S INN
THOMPSON'S SPA, WASHINGTON STREET

COLE'S INN.

THE first house of common entertainment was opened by Samuel Cole in 1633. In 1635 he was licensed to keep an ordinary. The house was known as "Cole's Inn" and later went by the name of the "Ship Tavern". In 1636 Governor Vane invited Miantonimah, the Narragansett Chief, to Boston. They were entertained at Coles Inn, but in what manner Cole dined his score of painted Narragansetts does not transpire. A Treaty of Peace was concluded on the same day between the English and the Narragansetts which the Indians faithfully kept. Indians, however, were no uncommon sight in those days, in Boston. The quality of the entertainment provided by the genial proprietor is evidenced by the following anecdote:

Lord Rey, Earl of Marlborough, who was killed in an engagement with the Dutch in 1665, visited Boston in 1637. He lodged at Cole's Inn, and when Governor Winthrop urged him to partake of his hospitality he declined saying, that in a house which was so well governed, he could be as private there as elsewhere.

His lordship's reply was not, it is said, relished by the Governor, who considered himself slighted and his hospitality neglected.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.

The great fire of 1711 started in the rear of this tavern which was then located on the present site of Thompson's Spa on Washington Street.



THE FIRST POST OFFICE
IN THE
AMERICAN COLONIES
STOOD NEAR THIS SPOT

"RICH'D FAIRBANKS HIS HOUSE
IN BOSTON IS THE PLACE
APPOINTED FOR ALL LETTERS
AND HEE IS TO TAKE
CARE THAT THEY BEE DELIVERED
OR SENT ACCORDING TO THEIR
DIRECTIONS"

ORDER OF THE GENERAL COURT
NOVEMBER 5-1639

PLACED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON
1924

TABLET NO. 36 — FIRST POST OFFICE
WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON GLOBE BUILDING

THE FIRST POST OFFICE.

MUCH thought and study were given by the Commission in fixing the site of the First Post Office on the American Continent. The site of the First Post Office on the Western Continent was brought to the attention of the Commission by Mr. Fred G. Floyd. It became necessary in the first instance to establish beyond a reasonable doubt that any sort of postal service previous to 1639 was established in any of the Colonies; and the Virginia Historical Society, the New York Historical Society, and the State Library of Connecticut were consulted.

In Stokes' "Iconography of Manhattan Island," Vol. IV, p. 252, under date of February 14, 1665, is the following:

"The first suggestion of post-riders appears in a letter of Governor Nicolls to Governor Winthrop of Connecticut:

'I have for the speedy dispatch of Letters of Publicke concerne made a Law that any Letter attested on the back side with the Name of the Governour of any Colony, and directed to mee, or from mee so attested by mee to any Governour or other person shall be immediately dispatched from Constable to Constable, who is to presse a horse and man for such service at the rate of sixe pence per mile'".

The establishment of the first regular post service is the Proclamation of Governor Lovelace dated December 10, 1672, between New York and Boston. Dr. W. DeLoss Love, in his book on the Colonial History of Hartford, Connecticut, pages 228-229, states that no trace of a post office can be located in the earliest period. He is authority for the following:

"In earliest times messengers came and went at intervals mostly on public business. Letters were committed to them, and also to neighbors and friends, for delivery. . . . Places were naturally appointed by convenience or authority where letters were received or dispatched. At Boston, by Act of the General Court on November 5, 1639, Richard Fairbanks' place was so named, — 'Richard Fairbanks his house in Boston is the place appointed for all letters.' There was a monthly mail between New York and Boston in 1672. . . . In 1693 a general office was established in Boston. . . . It seems probable that some convenient place in Hartford was early made a depository, where a letter could be left for the first traveller or post-rider going to its destination. Inns were often so used. Still we are unable to identify any such place during the

first half of the eighteenth century. On January 1, 1755, James Parker and Company began to publish in New Haven 'The Connecticut Gazette.' It was printed at the post office near the sign of the White Horse. From Virginia comes the information that there was no post office of record, only references are made to ships about to sail, and no record of any post office at Jamestown."

In connection with the above the following letter from the late Senator Lodge may be quoted in part. Under date of October 3, 1923, and written at Nahant, Senator Lodge writes:

"I think by your careful search you have absolutely proved the case. I should say there was not the slightest doubt that that (The Fairbanks house) was the first post office, and, of course, it was a true post office. There are many post offices in the country — all the fourth class post offices probably — where the only duties of the postmaster are the receipt and distribution of mails at the office. What Fairbanks did constituted a post office, I should say, in the full acceptance of the term. The work of distribution by carriers I think is a comparatively modern thing. I do not believe in 1639 there had ever been an attempt at a post office anywhere else in this country. I think you can, therefore, without hesitation, put up the inscription of which you speak."

The house of Richard Fairbanks which was the first post office in America was located on an estate which had a frontage of about sixty feet on Cornhill, now Washington Street, and as houses were usually placed on a lot to obtain a southerly exposure, the site was about where the Boston "Globe" is located.

Fairbanks, our first post master, was made a freeman in 1634. In 1637-1638 he was allowed to sell "wine and strong water." The bar — indispensable in those days to the business of keeping an inn, was located on the lower floor of the house, and it was here that the townspeople came for their mail. Fairbanks was also "pound keeper," the town at that time being overrun by cattle, pigs, and goats. As to the location of Fairbanks' house on what is now Washington Street, the Commission can refer, without comment, to the following authorities:

"Book of Possessions." Suffolk Deeds,
30: 245-31; 6-33; 208-34:1.

The house on the lot was built for an inn by Fairbanks and was probably the width of the present 236 Washington Street and stood partly on the lot now occupied by the Globe Building.

(See Suffolk Deeds, 5:197.)

Another authority places the Fairbanks house on what is now 238-242 Washington Street. The tablet is placed on the northerly corner of the Globe Building, which is as near the probable site of the house as it is possible to locate it. The following authorities may be referred to on the question of Fairbanks being the post master.

Professional and Industrial History Suffolk County, Mass. Vol. 2. Page 443.

The Postal Service in Boston 1639-1893.
by C. W. Ernst.

Memorial History of Boston, by Justin Winsor.
Vol. I. Page 232.

Old Boston Taverns and Tavern Clubs,
by Samuel Adams Drake, and edited
by Walter Kendall Watkins, Boston.
1917. Pages 27, 61, 89, 100.

Book of Possessions. George Lamb.



TABLET NO. 37—GENERAL LEONARD A. WOOD
CITY HOSPITAL, HARRISON AVENUE

GENERAL LEONARD A. WOOD.

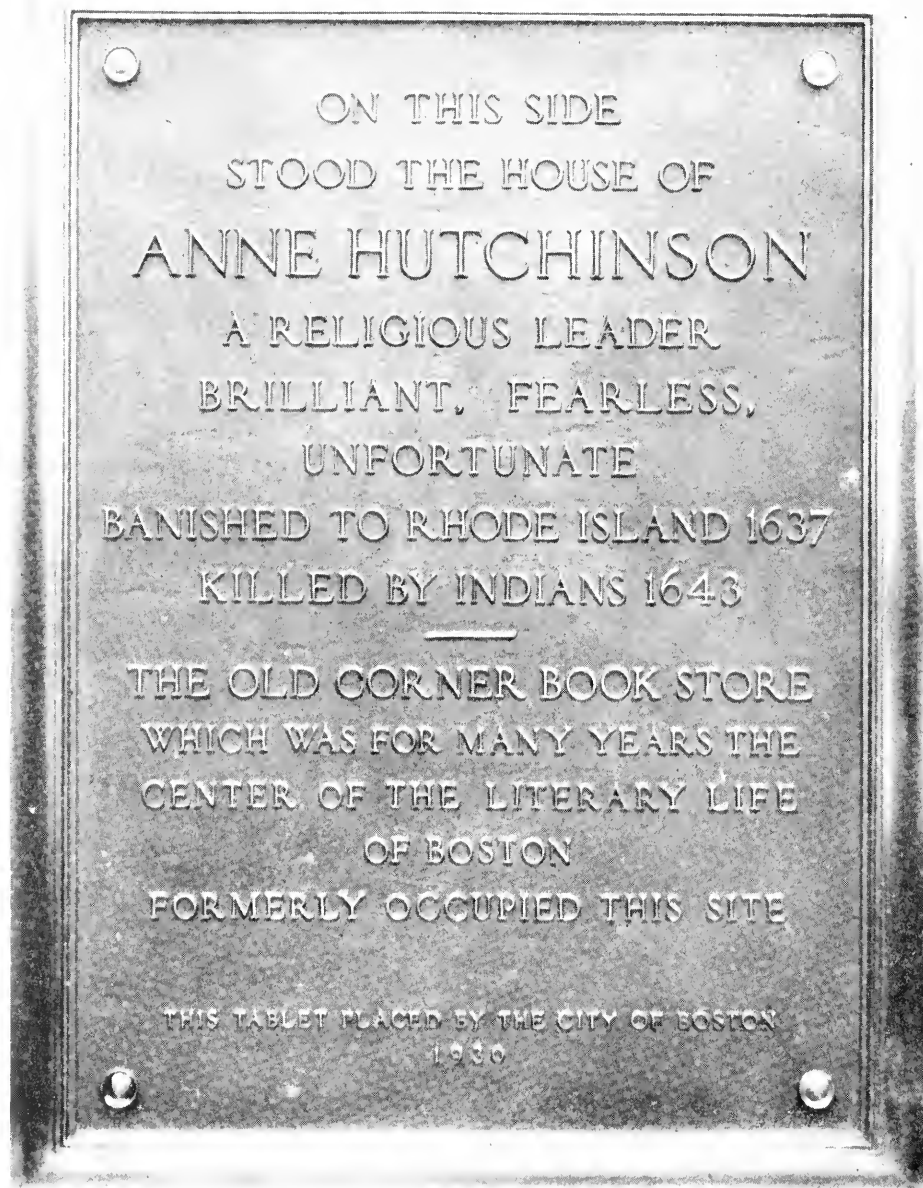
[DISTINGUISHED SOLDIER AND ADMINISTRATOR.]

Born: Manchester, New Hampshire, October 9, 1860.

Died: Boston, Massachusetts, August 7, 1927.

GENERAL Leonard A. Wood was educated at Harvard College and at the Harvard Medical School. After graduating in medicine, he served for a short time as an interne at the Boston City Hospital. He then entered the United States Army as a medical officer in 1886. He served as Lieutenant and Assistant Surgeon in the campaign against Geronimo. In 1898 he was commissioned Colonel of the "Rough Riders" in the Spanish-American War. On December 7, 1898, he was appointed Major General. He served as governor of Cuba in 1899. In 1921 he was chosen head of the University of Pennsylvania, but resigned to become Governor General of the Philippines. In 1920 he was an unsuccessful candidate for the nomination for President of the United States. He was the author of many works on military subjects. He had a long and distinguished public career.

The Encyclopedia Americana. Vol. 29.



TABLET NO. 38 — ANNE HUTCHINSON
CORNER OF WASHINGTON AND SCHOOL STREETS

ANNE HUTCHINSON.

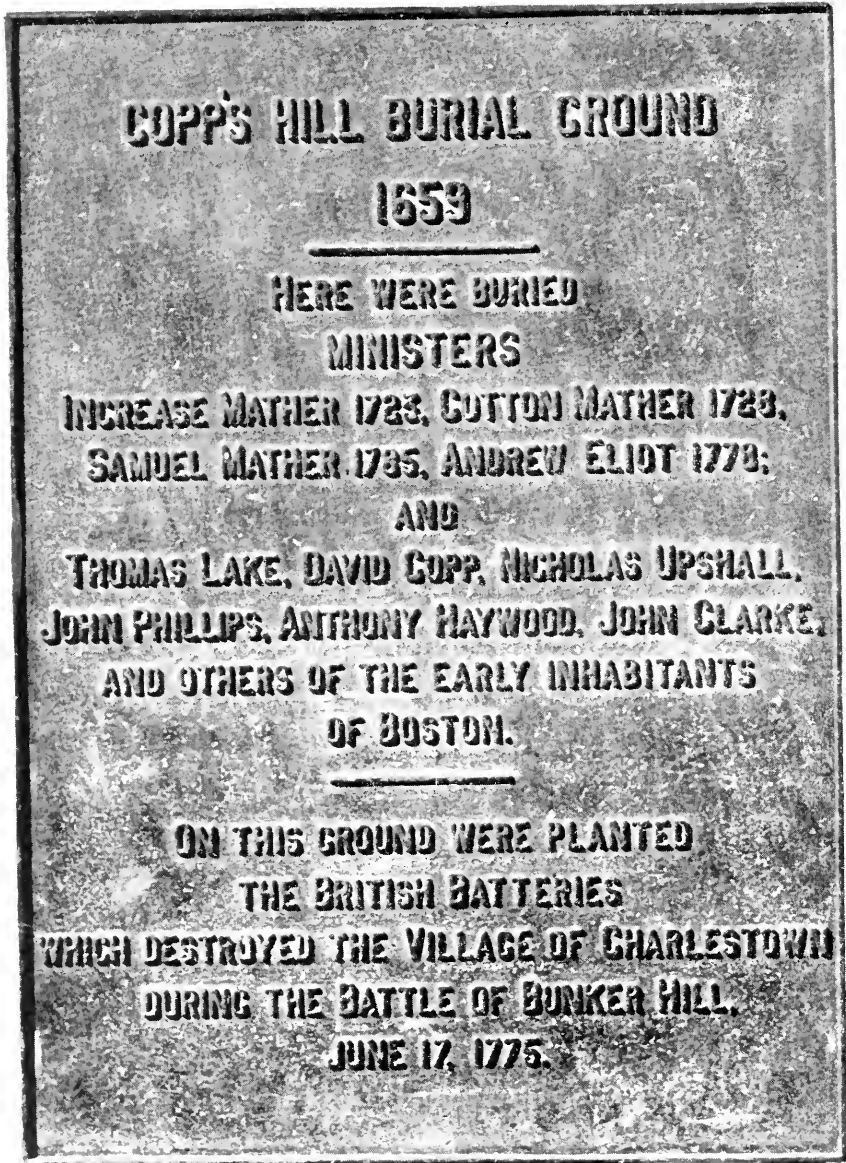
Born: Lincolnshire, England, July 20, 1590.

Died: New York, August, 1643.

ANNE Hutchinson, leader of a sect of Antinomians, fills a chapter in the history of Boston illustrative of the ecclesiastical tyranny of its founders. She lived about 1634 on the site of the building in which was located for so many years the "Old Corner Bookstore" at the corner of Washington and School Streets. For a time she had all Boston by the ears and even public business was halted. Her followers in Boston were numerous. She was a woman of consummate ability and address. It was said that she had the Rev. John Cotton ensnared, while Winthrop wavered. The latter, however, became her bitter enemy and pursued her with great vindictiveness. She was brought to trial and after a two-day hearing was banished. In 1638 she went to Rhode Island, the haven of religious refugees. Going later to New York, she fell victim to the Indians.

Old Landmarks. Samuel A. Drake.

A memorial to Anne Hutchinson by Cyrus E. Dallin is on the grounds in front of the State House.



TABLET NO. 39—FIRST BURYING GROUND
 HULL STREET

COPP'S HILL BURYING GROUND.

[FIRST BURIAL GROUND IN BOSTON.]

THE appearance of Copp's Hill, which takes its name from an early possessor, is very different today from what it was in colonial times. In those days the hill terminated abruptly on the northwest side, towards Charlestown, in a rugged cliff almost inaccessible from the water.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.

During the siege of Boston the British built a redoubt there, the parapets of which were constructed of barrels filled with the natural soil. The battery consisted of six heavy guns and howitzers, three of which were twenty-four pounders. By means of this battery the British destroyed the village of Charlestown during the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Topographical Description of Boston. Shurtleff.

The first windmill erected in the Colony stood on this hill, and here was located the First Burying Ground, in 1659, in which were buried many of the early settlers.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

THE monolith bearing the bronze tablet of the Declaration of Independence stands on Lafayette Mall, on Boston Common, opposite the junction of West and Tremont Streets. The monument is thirteen feet in height,—a foot for each colony. The shaft is of Westerly granite surmounted by a bronze eagle with wings outspread, holding a laurel wreath and a bundle of thirteen arrows in its talons. A facsimile of the Declaration five feet in height is set into the granite under a bas-relief moulded after Trumbell's famous painting of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence in Independence Hall, Philadelphia. The various handwritings of the signers are faithfully imitated and certain slight defects peculiar to the document are copied. The writing is incised in the bronze and has been made to stand out boldly by a special blackening process to convey the effect of ink applied with the goose quill of colonial days. The cornice decorations embody the scallop shell so frequently seen in colonial architecture. On the back of the shaft is a bronze tablet bearing the names of the Massachusetts signers. The bas-relief above the Declaration contains the figures of the fifty-six signers of the document.

The immediate historical events which led up to the signing of the Declaration were as follows:—in May, 1775, the second Continental Congress met at Philadelphia. On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee, in the name of the Virginia delegation, moved that, "these united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states." In response a committee was chosen to draft the state paper, proclaiming the Revolution and stating the reasons for the momentous stroke. Thomas Jefferson, whose facility of expression was known to his colleagues, was made chairman and assigned the delicate task of framing the document. For eighteen days he worked at it, cutting, polishing and balancing. On July 2, 1776, the Congress went on record in favor of independence. On July 4, 1776, the final draft of Jefferson's paper was formally adopted, confirming the fateful step already taken. Three or four days later the Declaration was read in a public plaza, later known as Independence Square, in Philadelphia. Copies were spread broadcast and published in city, town and village, from New Hampshire to Georgia.

The delegates to the Second Continental Congress were nearly all citizens of substance and affairs. Included among the number were such leaders as Washington, Jefferson, Wythe, Harrison and the Lees from Virginia; Samuel and John Adams, Gerry and Hancock of Massachusetts; Franklin and Morris of Pennsylvania; Read and Rodney of Delaware; Roger Sherman and Oliver Wolcott of Connecticut.



TABLET NO. 41—SIGNERS OF DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Of the fifty-six who signed the Declaration of Independence, eight were merchants, six were physicians, five were farmers, and twenty-five were lawyers,—members of that learned and contentious profession against whom Burke had warned his countrymen. Most of them were tutored in the arts of local politics; many had served in colonial legislatures; a majority had taken an active part in agitations against British policies.

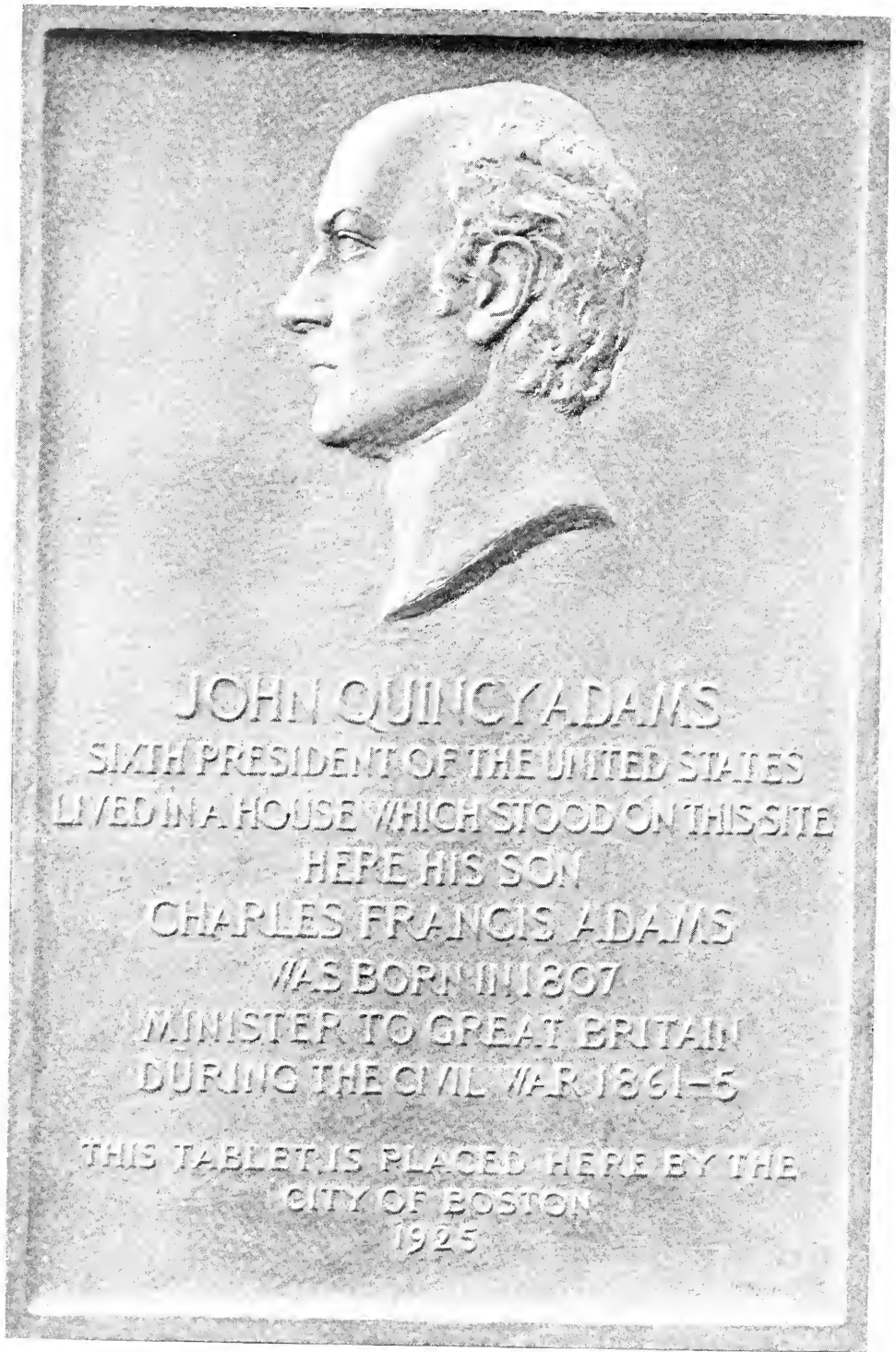
The Rise of American Civilization. Beard.

The signers of the Declaration were as follows:—

New Hampshire.	Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton.
Massachusetts.	John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry.
Rhode Island.	Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery.
Connecticut.	Robert Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott.
New York.	William Floyd, Philip Livingstone, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris.
New Jersey.	Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abram Clark.
Pennsylvania.	Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross.
Delaware.	Caesar Rodney, George Read, Thomas McKean.
Maryland.	Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll of Carrollton.
Virginia.	George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.
North Carolina.	William Hooper, Joseph Hawes, John Penn.
South Carolina.	Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heywood, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton.
Georgia.	Button Guinness, Lyman Hall, George Walton.

A facsimile of the original Declaration of Independence is to be found in Volume One of the Fifth Series of Force's Archives.

The Rise of the Republic. Frothingham.



TABLET NO. 42—RESIDENCE OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS AND
CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS

HOTEL TOURMAINE, CORNER BOYLSTON AND TREMONT STREETS

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

[SIXTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.]

Born: Braintree, Massachusetts, July 11, 1767.

Died: Washington, D. C., February 23, 1848.

JOHN Quincy Adams was graduated from Harvard College in 1787, and having been admitted to the Bar, became a successful lawyer and writer. He entered public life in 1794 and held high positions of trust almost continuously until his death in 1848. He was minister to Holland, England, and Prussia successively; United States Senator from Massachusetts, Commissioner at the Treaty of Ghent, Secretary of War, and President of the United States from 1825 to 1829. From 1831 until his death, although an ex-president, he served as a member of Congress from Massachusetts and was known as the "old Man Eloquent."

From Forty of Boston's Immortals.

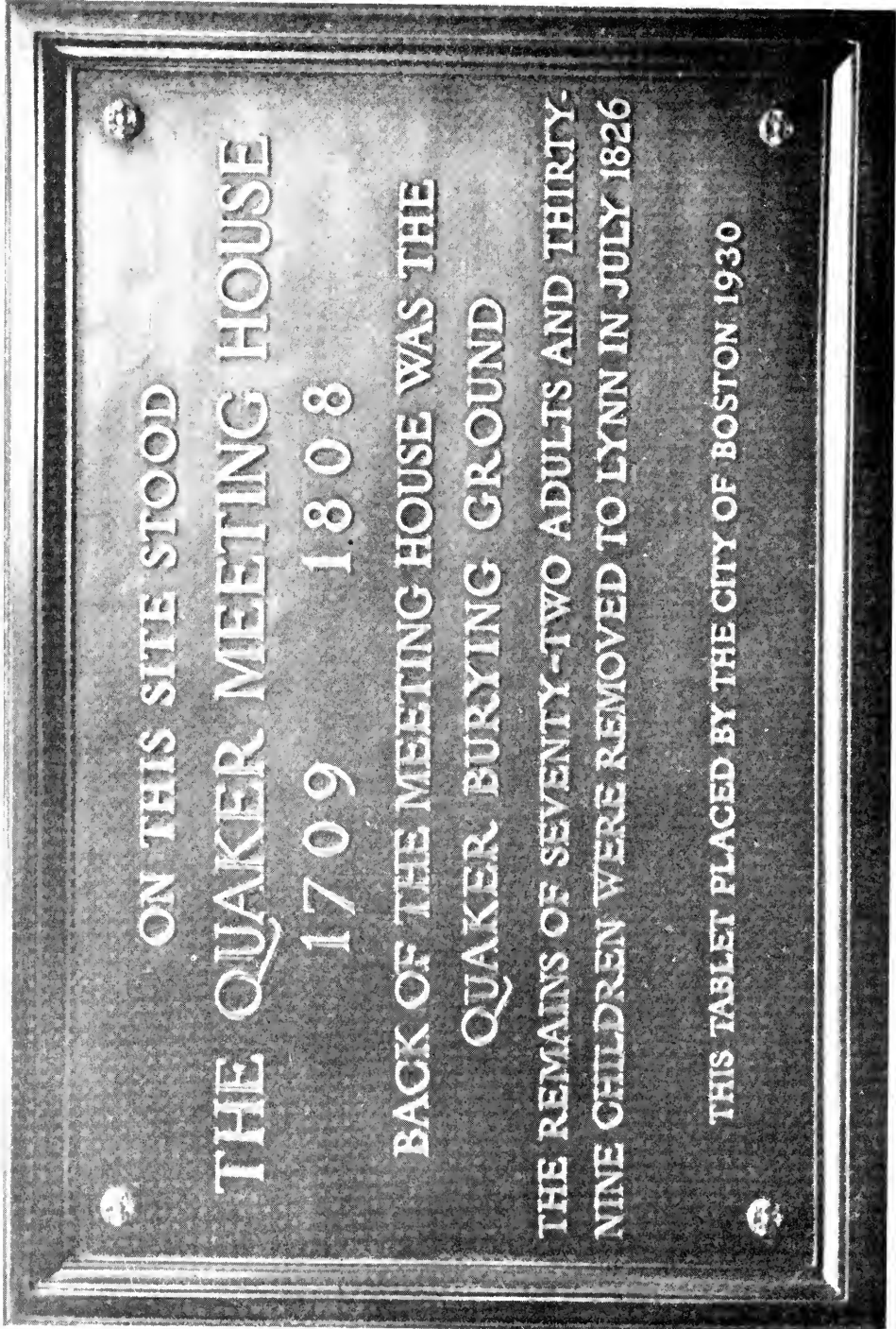
Published by the State Street Trust
Company. 1910.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Born: Boston, August 18, 1807.

Died: Boston, November 21, 1886.

CHARLES Francis Adams, statesman and diplomat, was the son of John Quincy Adams. He was graduated from Harvard College in 1825 and was admitted to the Bar in 1828. He was a Whig member of the Massachusetts Legislature in 1831 and was the candidate of the Free Soil party for Vice-President. He was a member of Congress in 1859-1861, United States Minister to England 1861-1865, and United States arbitrator at the Geneva Tribunal in 1871-1872. He published the "Life and Works of John Adams" and the "Diary of John Quincy Adams."



TABLET NO. 43—SECOND QUAKER MEETING HOUSE
MONKS BUILDING, CONGRESS STREET

THE SECOND QUAKER MEETING-HOUSE.

THE Quakers enjoyed the distinction of having built the first brick meeting-house in Boston. It was on Brattle Street, and dates back to 1692. This was abandoned in 1708, and the Society moved to Leverett's Lane, later Congress Street.

The proper designation of the Quakers is "The Society of Friends." It is a Christian sect which took root in England about the middle of the seventeenth century through the preaching of George Fox. The Quakers agreed doctrinally with other evangelical Christians, but laid greater stress on the doctrine of personal presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit. They had no professional ministry, and accepted the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's supper in a spiritual sense only, rejecting their outward observance as church rites. They condemned all oath-taking and all war. The organization of the Society involved four periodical gatherings called "meetings",—namely: preparatory meeting, monthly meeting, quarterly meeting, and yearly meeting. The body called the "yearly meeting" had supreme legislative power. Like other Christian sects in early colonial days, the Society of Friends suffered bitter persecution at the hands of the Puritans. William Penn, the founder of Philadelphia, was a member of the Quaker sect.



THE SIGNAL LANTERNS
OF
PAUL REVERE
DISPLAYED IN THE
STEEPLE OF THIS CHURCH
APRIL 18 1775
WARNED THE COUNTRY
OF THE MARCH OF
THE BRITISH TROOPS TO
LEXINGTON AND CONCORD
PLACED BY THE CITY OF BOSTON
1924

TABLET NO. 44 — CHRIST CHURCH, OLD NORTH CHURCH
SALEM STREET

CHRIST CHURCH.

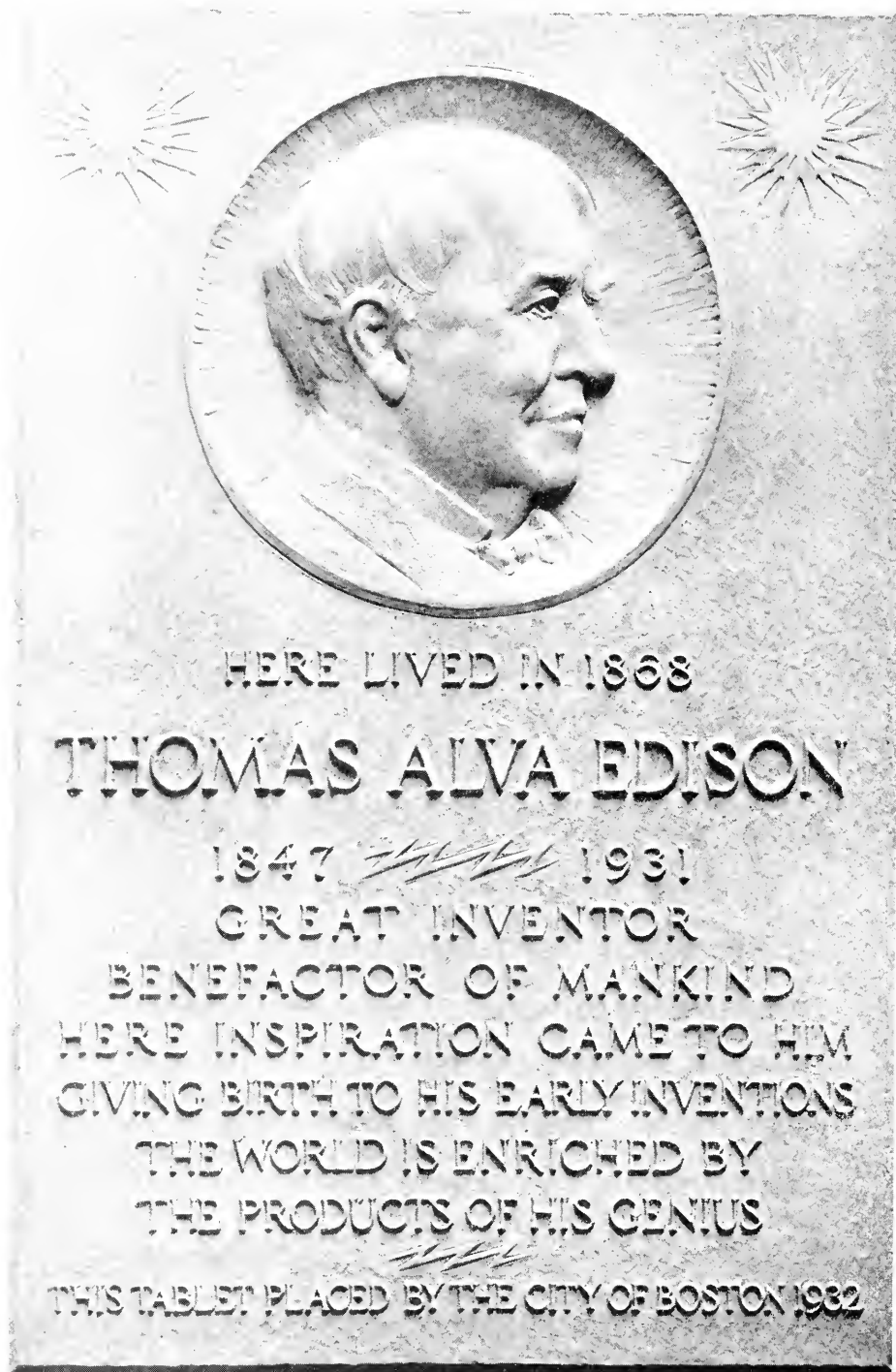
[NORTH CHURCH.]

THIS was the second Episcopal Church erected in Boston and is the oldest church in Boston standing now on its original ground, having been erected in 1723,—six years before the Old South. The spire, after the design of Charles Bulfinch, has long dominated this locality and served as a landmark for vessels entering the harbor. It is generally known that from the steeple of this church which was visible far and near, warning was given by lantern signals of the intended march in 1775 of the British to Lexington and Concord.

Paul Revere's narrative of the event is as follows:

"On Tuesday evening, the eighteenth of April, 1775, it was observed that a number of soldiers were marching towards Boston Common. About ten o'clock Dr. Warren sent in great haste for me, and begged that I would immediately set off for Lexington, where were Hancock and Adams, and acquaint them of the movement, of which it was thought they were the objects. The Sunday before, by the desire of Dr. Warren, I had been to Lexington to see Hancock and Adams. . . . I returned at night through Charlestown. There I agreed with a Colonel Conant and some other gentlemen that if the British went out by water we would show two lanterns on the North Church steeple, and if by land, one, as a signal; for we were apprehensive it would be difficult to cross Charles River, or get over Boston Neck. I left Dr. Warren, called upon a friend, and desired him to make the signals. I then went home, took my boots and surtout, and went to the north part of the town, where I had kept a boat. Two friends rowed me across the Charles River, a little to the eastward, where the Somerset lay. It was then young flood; the ship was winding, and the moon was rising. They landed me on the Charlestown side. When I got into town I met Colonel Conant and several others. They said they had seen our signals."

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 45—THOMAS A. EDISON
CORNER OF CAMBRIDGE AND BULFINCH STREETS

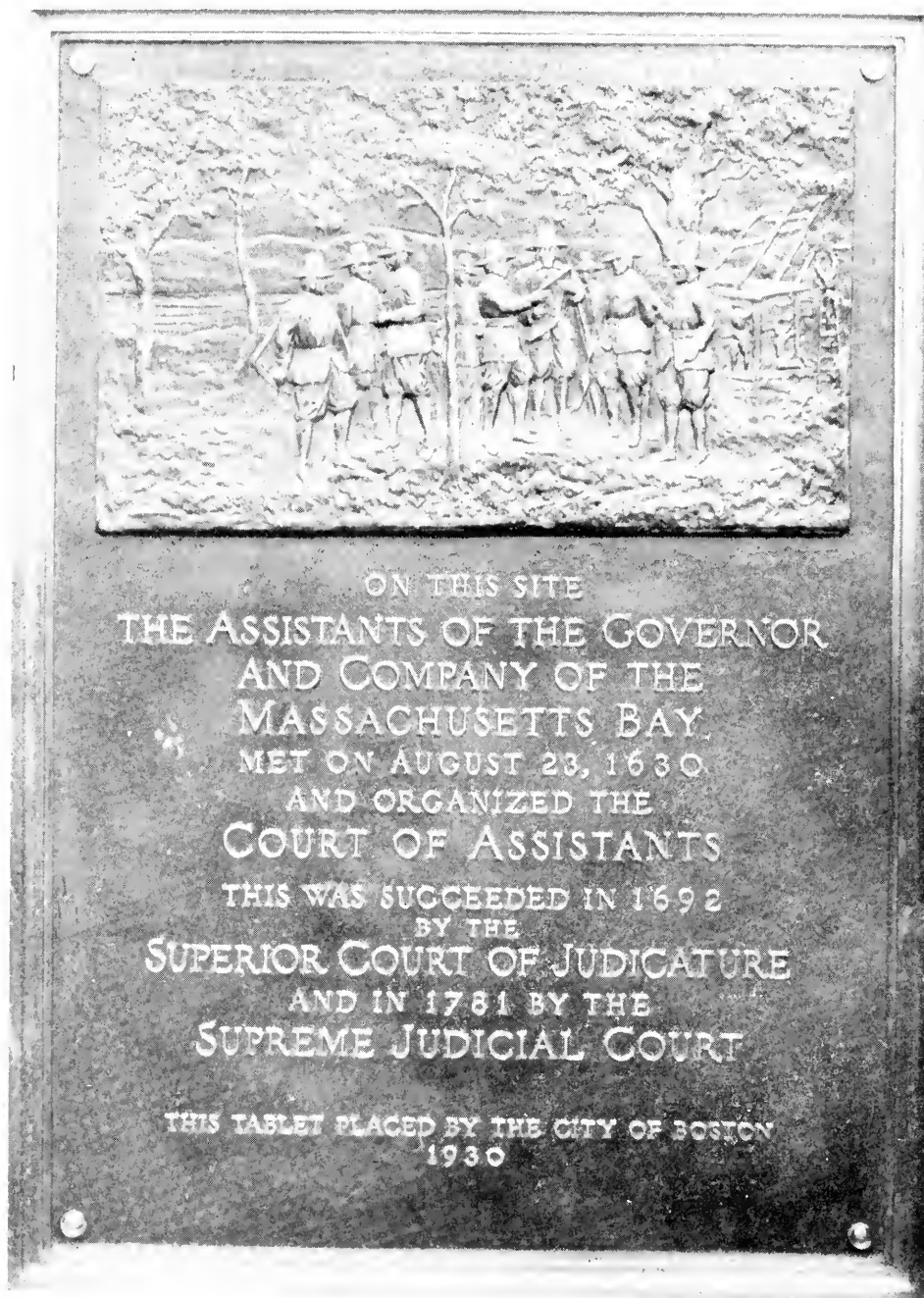
THOMAS ALVA EDISON.

Born: Milan, Ohio, February 11, 1847.

Died: West Orange, New Jersey, October 18, 1931.

THOMAS Alva Edison was a man of remarkable personality; in him were combined a phenomenal mind, a tremendous energy and an almost boyish enthusiasm for the successful solution of the problem in hand. He was one of the greatest of all men to apply science to the mechanical arts. In 1928 the Congress of the United States awarded him a gold medal and placed a value of \$15,599,000,000 on his inventive contribution to humanity. He was made Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by France as early as 1878, and a Commander in 1889. Italy made him the Grand Officer of the Crown in 1889, and Great Britain awarded him the Albert Medal of the Society of Arts in 1892. In the popular imagination he is especially remembered for the incandescent light, the phonograph, and the cinematograph.

Encyclopedia Americana.



TABLET NO. 46 — COURT OF ASSISTANTS
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CHARLESTOWN

COURTS OF ASSISTANTS.

DURING the early years of the Colony of Massachusetts the powers and duties of the Governor and his assistants sitting as a Court of Assistants, for the trial of causes, civil and criminal, were not distinguished from the powers and duties of the same magistrates acting in legislative and executive capacities under the Charter granted in 1629 to the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England. From 1629 to 1641 their proceedings as Magistrates acting as a court are entered in the same book, intermixed with the records of the General Court, the whole forming the first volume of the Massachusetts Records now in the State Archives. The Court of Assistants, as such, is as old as the Colony. The first record which is headed with the formal title "The Court of Assistants" is that of May 18, 1629. Governor Winthrop summoned the first Court of Assistants at Charlestown, its first sitting being held August 23, 1630. In the Laws of 1660 the chapter on Courts prescribes the terms of sitting and states the powers of the Courts of Assistants.

"For the better administration of justice and easing of the Country of unnecessary charges and travaille. It is ordered by this Court and the Authority thereof that there be two Courts of Assistants, yearly kept at Boston, by the Governour, Deputie Governour and the rest of the Magistrates, on the first Tuesday of the first month, and on the first Tuesday of the seventh month, to heare and determine all and onely actions of appeals from inferior Courts; all Causes of divorce, all Capital and Criminal causes extending to life, member or banishment. And that Justice be not deferred nor the Country needlessly charged, It shall be lawful for the Governour, or in his absence the Deputie Governour (as they shall judge necessary) to call a Court of Assistants for the tryal of any Malefactour in Capital Causes."

It is not known where the first session and the other earlier sessions of the General Court were held, but a Court of Assistants was held in Charlestown August 23, 1630. This Court was the precursor of the present Superior Court and of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth.

Records of the Court of Assistants. Vol. I.
Printed under the supervision of John Noble,
late Clerk of the Supreme Court.
History of the Judiciary of Massachusetts. Davis.
Colonial Laws of Boston. 1889. 143.



TABLET NO. 47 — LANDING PLACE OF GENERAL CHAMPLAIN
NORTH END PARK

SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN.

EARLY French explorer after whom Lake Champlain was named. It was mainly through his explorations that the French laid claim to large areas in the St. Lawrence valley and in Northern New England and New York. During the period between 1603 and 1608 he explored the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and New England as far as Cape Cod. He landed at Wessagusset (Weymouth) and at Boston in 1605.

The place where he landed in Boston is a stretch of shore now known as the North End Park. It is the only piece of the original shore line of the peninsula of Boston now remaining. The original shore line, running from Boston Neck (Dover Street) around to Boston Neck on the other side, at the Charles River, comprised a little over four miles. By filling the adjacent marshes and flats the original shore line has been obliterated with the exception of this short stretch. Pirates were hanged there in colonial days.



TABLET NO. 48.—JOHN HANCOCK HOUSE
29 BEACON STREET

JOHN HANCOCK.

Born: Quincy, Mass., January 12, 1737.

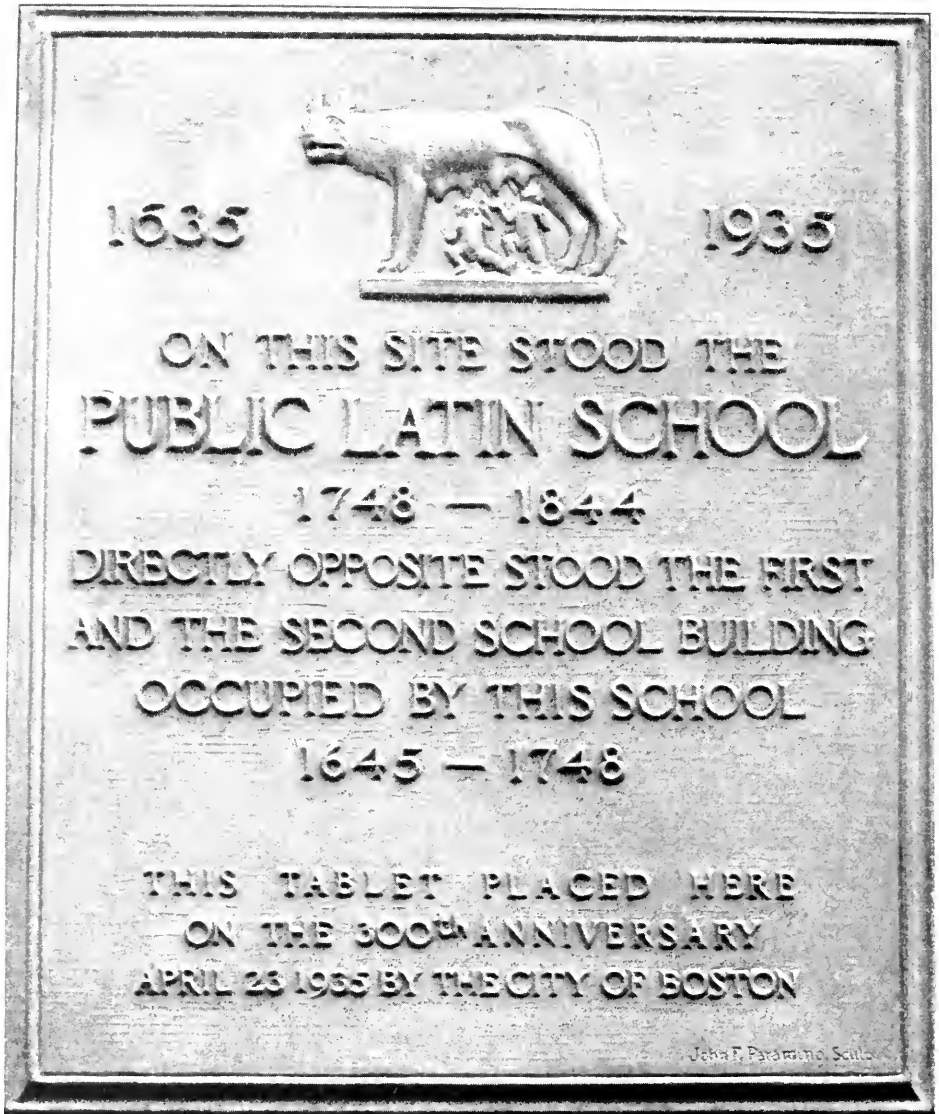
Died: Quincy, Mass., October 8, 1793.

JOHN Hancock entered the Public Latin School in 1745. He went to England when quite young, where he witnessed the coronation of George III, who afterwards set a price upon his head. One of the effusions indited to the patriot reads thus:

“As for their king, John Hancock,
and Adams, if they’re taken
Their heads for signs shall hang up high
upon that hill called Beacon.”

It was at first believed that the expedition of the British which led to the Battle of Lexington and Concord, on April 19, 1775, was for the purpose of capturing Hancock and Adams who were at the time at Concord. Hancock was President of the Provincial Congress in 1774, and of the Continental Congress in 1776, when he boldly affixed his striking signature to the Declaration of Independence, and it thus was circulated upon the floor of Congress. He was Town Moderator in 1778, and the same year he was appointed Major-General of the Massachusetts Militia. He was President of the Convention held in the Old State House, which adjourned to the church in Long Lane, known soon after its close as the Federal Street church, on January 9, 1788, at which the Federal Constitution was ratified on February 6, following. He was a wealthy merchant and his house was one of the most famous colonial mansions. It stood at what was 29 Beacon Street and was the scene of many historical episodes. In 1778, D’Estaing, commander of the French fleet, was entertained there; Lafayette in 1781; Washington in 1789, and many other historical figures. He was the first Governor of the State of Massachusetts from 1780 to 1785 and was elected annually from 1787 until 1793 when he died in office. He was buried in the Granary Burying Ground.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.
Historical Description of Boston. Shurtleff.



TABLET NO. 49—PUBLIC LATIN SCHOOL (SITE FROM 1748 TO 1844)
PARKER HOUSE

PUBLIC LATIN SCHOOL.

THE Public Latin School, founded in 1635, is the oldest educational institution with a continuous existence in the country. It antedates Harvard College by one year. It was founded by an agreement among the first citizens of Boston, led by the first Governor, John Winthrop. From this establishment "itself the example and seed corn" the whole American system of free education grew. Philemon Pormont was its first Master.

The following appears in the Town Records:

"The 13th of the 2nd month, 1635.

"Att a General meeting upon publique notice . . . Likewise it was then generally agreed upon, that our brother Philemon Pormont, shalbe intrested to become scholemaster, for the teaching and nourtering of children with us."

Boston Town Records. Vol. II.

Mr. Pormont accepted the trust and was supported partly by the donations of liberal friends of education and partly by the income of a tract of land assigned to him at Muddy River (Brookline).

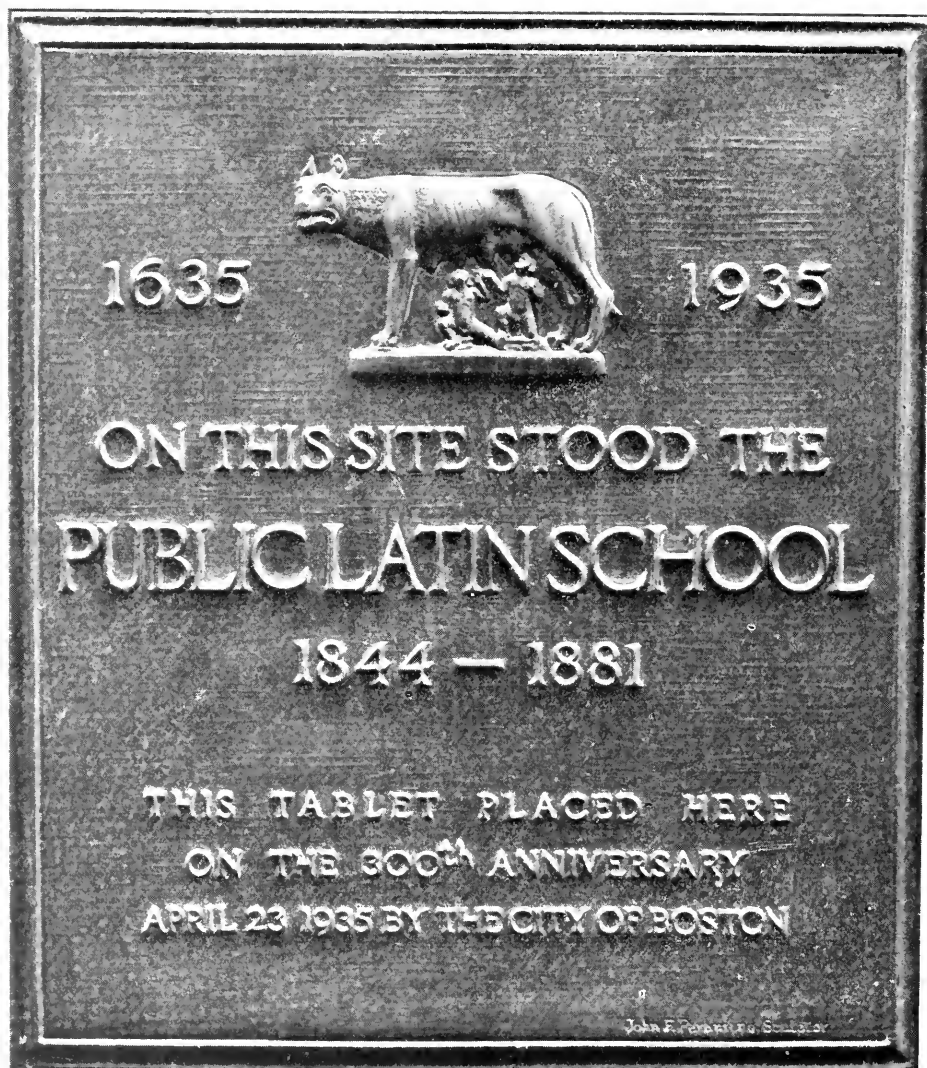
Boston Public Latin School. Jenks.

Master Pormont's administration of the Latin School lasted about three years from April, 1635, to the close of 1638, when he was succeeded by Daniel Maude. Since its earliest days the Latin School has always been a democratic institution. Its honors have been confined to no class, the children of the richest have mingled with the humblest. Merit has been the sole mark of distinction among its pupils.

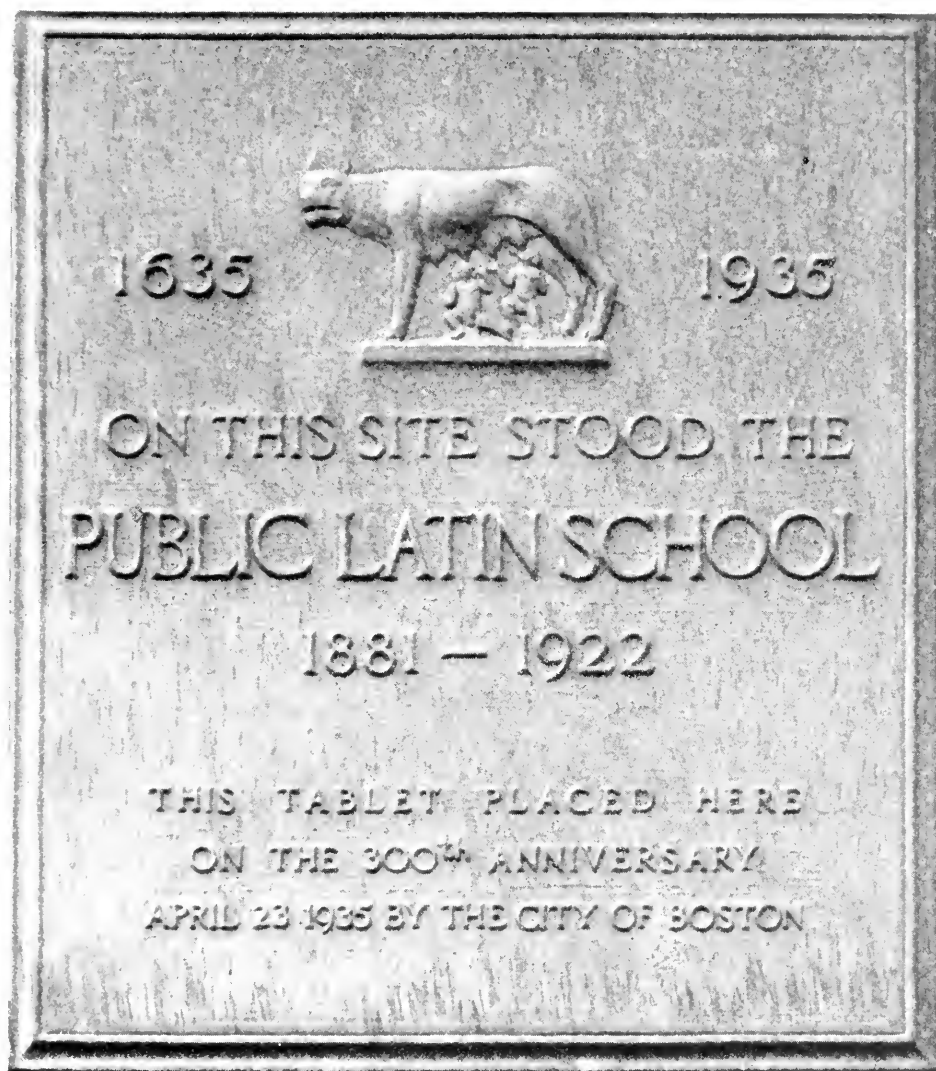
"They were all together on one level; no one was thought better than another except as he was a better fellow or a brighter student."

Boston Public Latin School. Jenks.

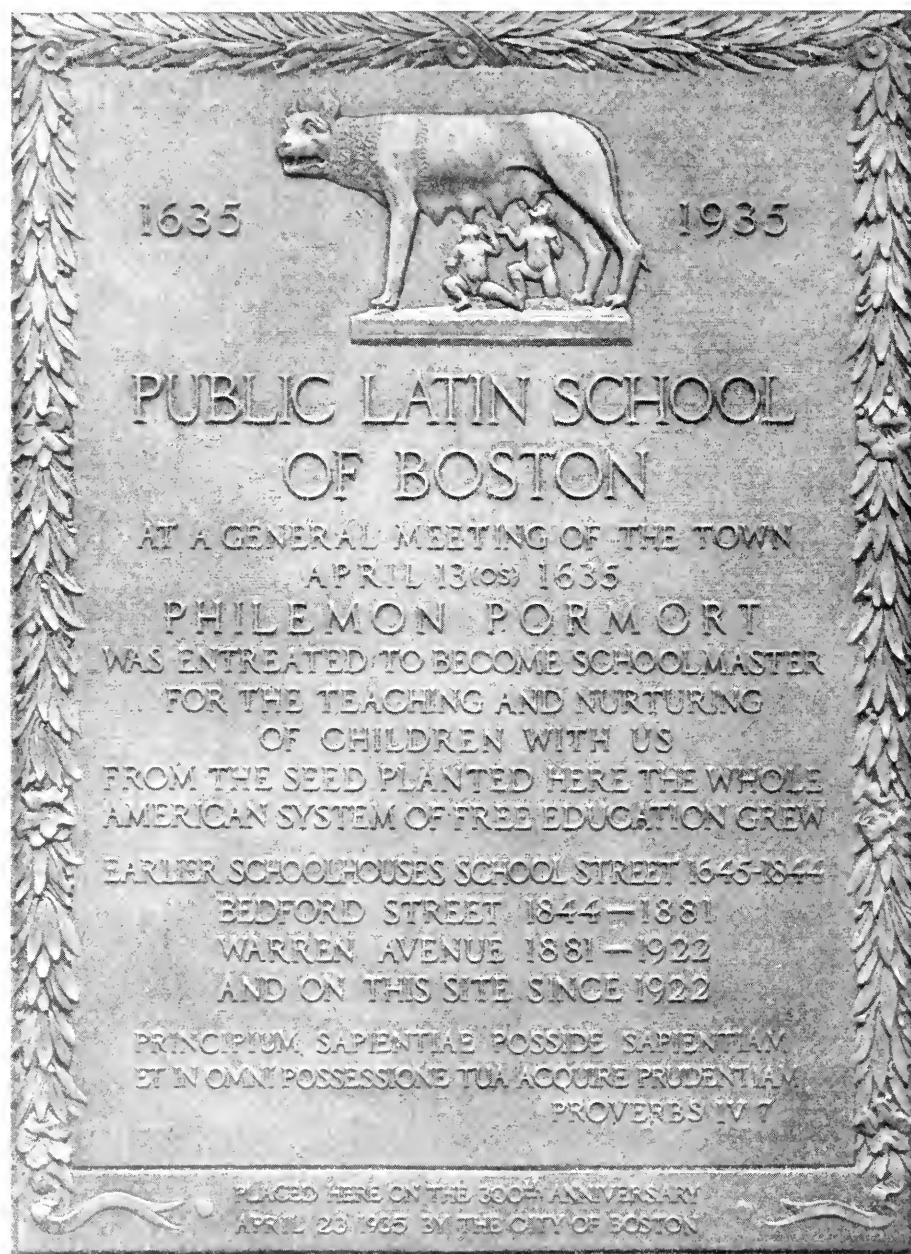
The Boston Latin School has ever maintained a high standard of scholarship, its graduates very frequently leading the preparatory schools of the country in the annual examinations held by the College Board Examiners for entrance to college.



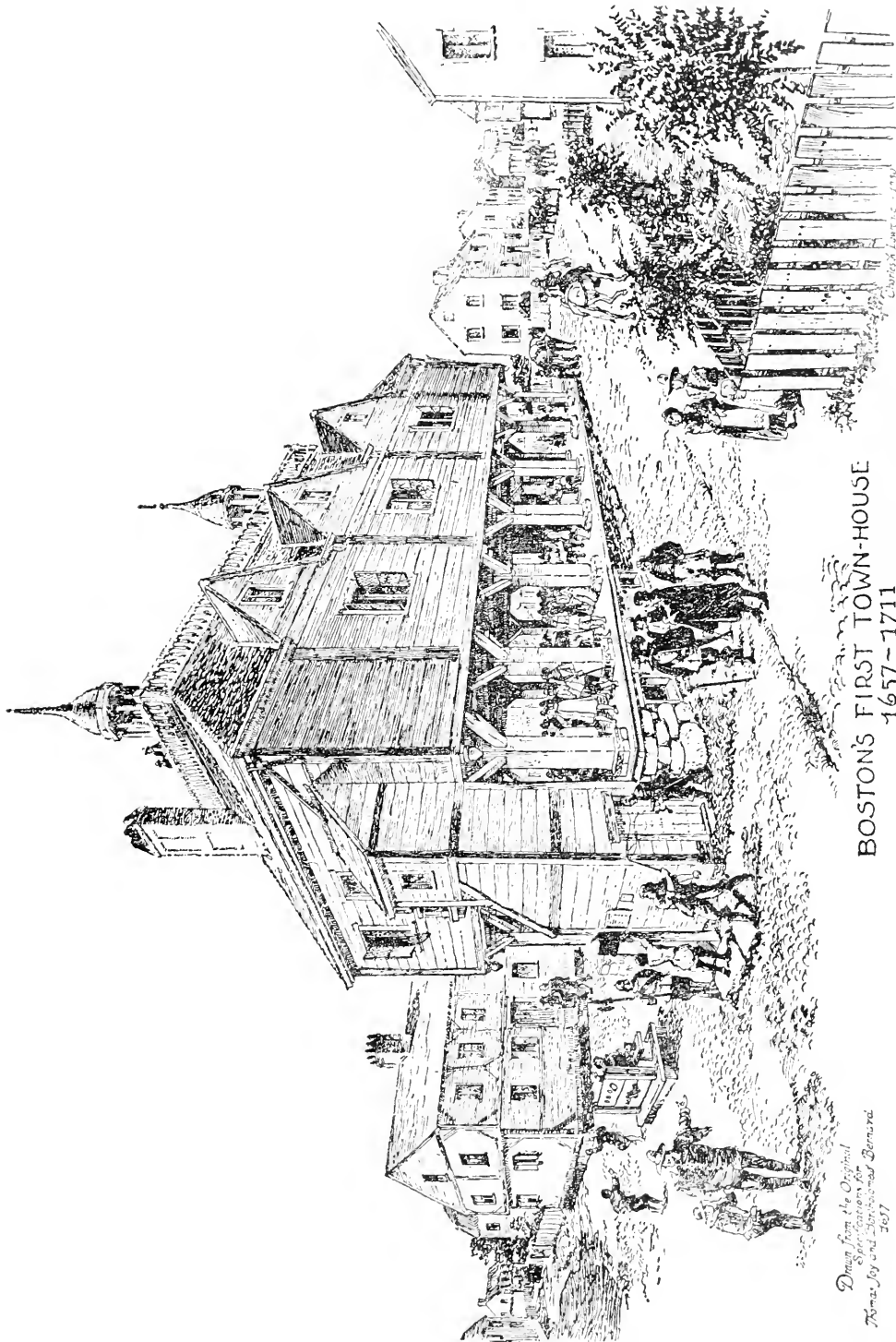
TABLET NO. 50 — PUBLIC LATIN SCHOOL (SITE FROM 1844 TO 1881)
JORDAN MARSH BUILDING, BEDFORD STREET



TABLET NO. 51—PUBLIC LATIN SCHOOL (SITE 1881 TO 1922)
PRESENT ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL, WARREN AVENUE, BOSTON



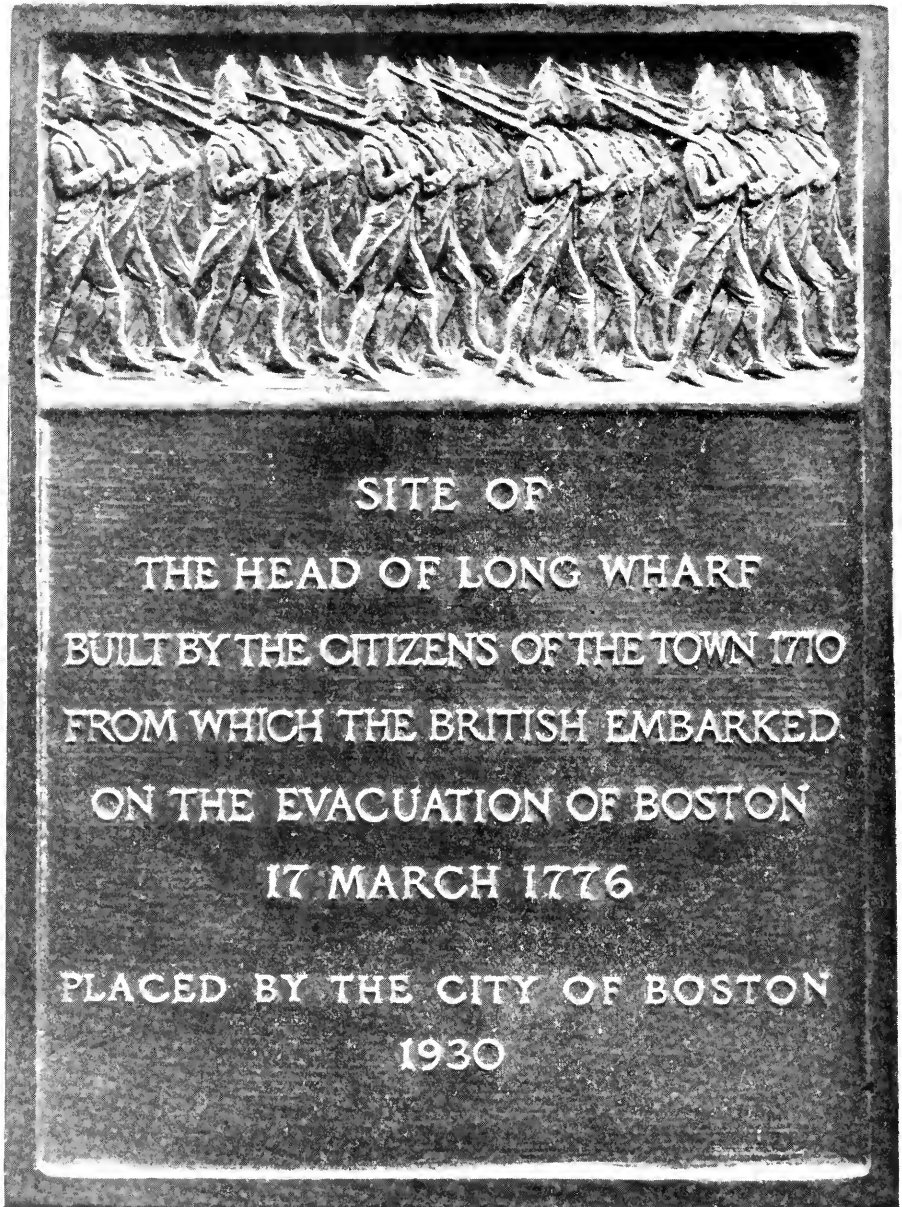
TABLET NO. 52 — PUBLIC LATIN SCHOOL (PRESENT SITE SINCE 1922)
AVENUE LOUIS PASTEUR, ROXBURY



BOSTON'S FIRST TOWN-HOUSE
1657-1711

PRESENT SITE OF THE OLD STATE HOUSE, WASHINGTON STREET

*Drawn from the Original
Engraving by Thomas
H. B. L. 1711*



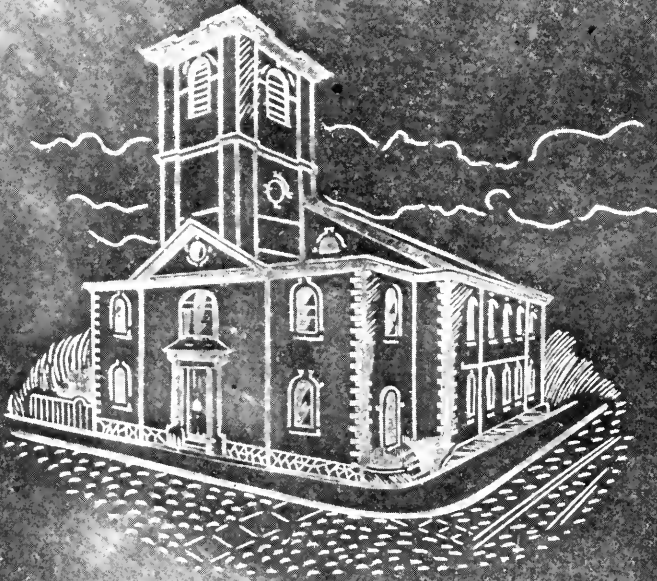
TABLET NO. 53—LONG WHARF
STATE STREET, CORNER OF CHATHAM STREET

LONG WHARF.

LONG Wharf and State Street are so intimately connected that they may be considered one to all intents and purposes. Before the wharf was built, the lower part of State Street terminated at the Governor's Dock. The subject of building a wharf at the bottom of King Street, now State, was discussed as early as 1707. In 1709 the town voted to build a wharf from Andrew Faucuil's Corner, now the corner of State and Chatham Streets, to low water mark. The wharf extended from State Street one thousand seven hundred forty-three feet into the harbor and had a thoroughfare thirty feet wide on one side and a space fifteen feet wide in the middle for boats to come up and unload. It was the largest of the eighty wharves and quays in Boston in the earlier days. The name of the wharf was at first the Boston Pier.

Many stirring and interesting scenes and episodes have taken place here. It was the landing place of the Royal Governors who, escorted by the flower of the Colony's militia, marched up King Street to the Town House. Here in 1768 landed the first British soldiers, sent by the King to enforce the laws following the Stamp Act. In fact all the British soldiers who set foot in Boston landed here. After the successful expedition to Louisburg, Governor Shirley, on his return, was here accorded a splendid reception. In 1774, when General Thomas Gage came to take command of Boston, he landed here. It was the scene of the embarkation of the British troops for Charlestown on that memorable day, June 17, 1775. When the British were forced to evacuate Boston, March 17, 1776, General Howe and his troops embarked from this wharf, thus forever ending British domination of Boston.

This is the site of
The Old Brattle St. Church



Erected in 1699 Rebuilt in 1772

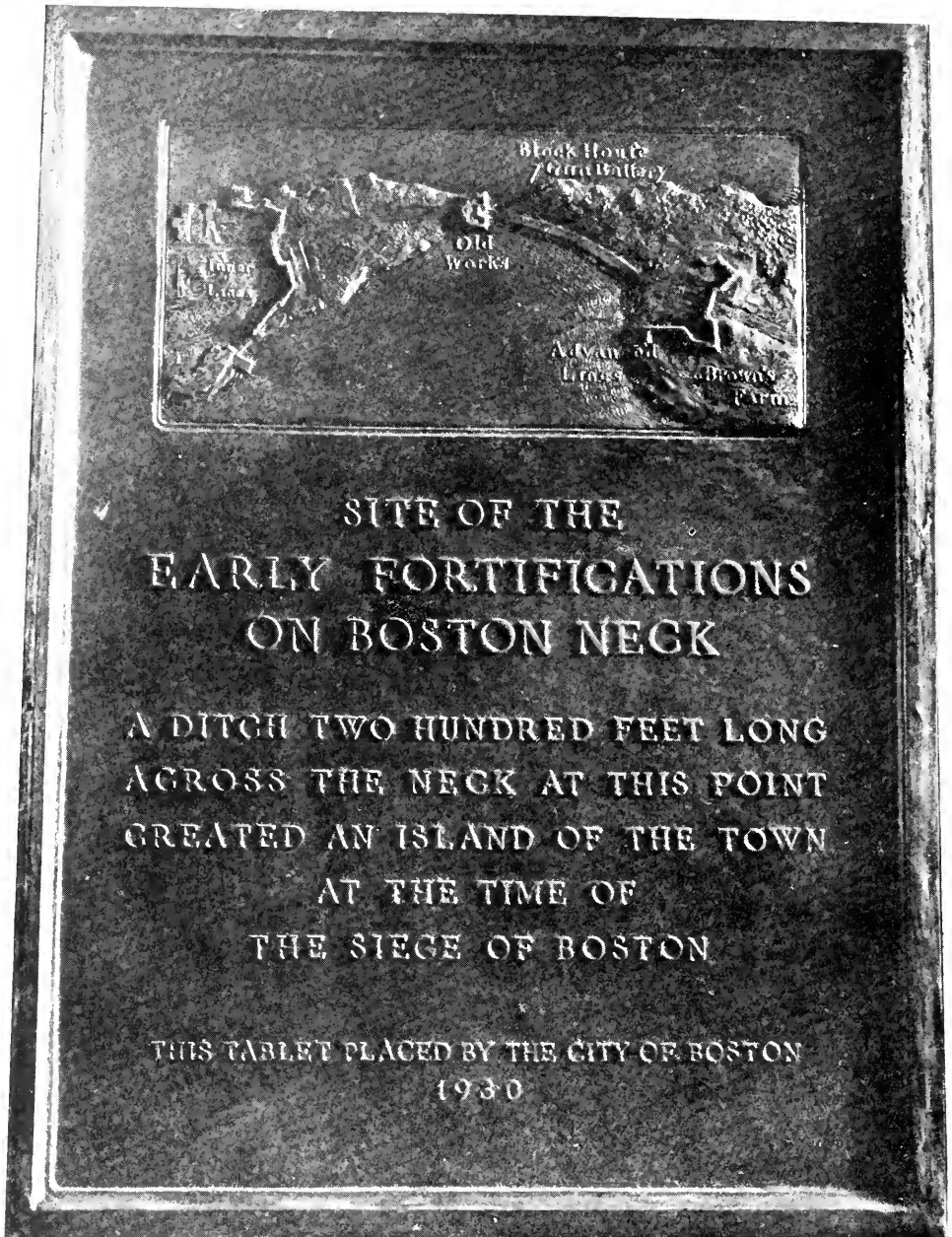
*Torn down in 1874 to make way
for the growth of this Store.*

TABLET NO. 54—OLD BRATTLE STREET CHURCH
LEOPOLD MORSE BUILDING, BRATTLE STREET

BRATTLE STREET CHURCH.

THE first building was erected in 1699, of wood, and was at that time known as the "Manifesto Church" in consequence of a declaration of principles by it, in answer to a protest from the older churches against its more liberal form of worship. It was rebuilt in 1772 and torn down in 1874, to make way for the present building which occupies its site. The night before the evacuation of Boston, a twenty-four pound shot from Cambridge struck the tower. The church had a long line of eminent pastors. Governor Hancock, Governor Bowdoin and their families, Joseph Warren, Harrison Gray Otis, and Daniel Webster were attendants at this church. Generals Washington and Lafayette also attended services here.

Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.



TABLET NO. 55 — BOSTON NECK
SITE OF THE OLD GRAND OPERA HOUSE, WASHINGTON STREET, NEAR DOVER STREET

BOSTON NECK.

IN the early days and for many years after the settlement of Boston, there was only one carriage entrance to the town and that was through Roxbury over the Neck. Very early after the settlement, a fortification was built over the northerly end of the highway which ran through the Neck from Dover Street to Roxbury. It was chiefly of brick, with embrasures in front and places for cannon on its sides and a deep ditch in its south side. It was erected as a protection against sudden attacks by Indians and had two gates, one for carriages and teams, and one for persons on foot. Regular watches were kept on it both by orders of the General Court and by Act of the Town. After the disappearance of hostile Indians, there being no necessity for protection, the fortifications fell into decay. In 1710, however, the fortification was rebuilt. The foundation of this work was of stone and brick with a parapet of earth. A suitable number of guns were mounted and a gate erected across the road. In September, 1774, when matters were approaching a crisis between the people and the King's troops, General Gage began to fortify the Neck. The armament at first consisted of two twenty-four-pounders and eight nine-pounders. There was a garrison of one hundred and forty men with a field officer in charge. This force was increased before the Battle of Lexington to three hundred and forty men. In July, 1775, when the siege of Boston had fairly begun, there were mounted here eight twenty-four-pounders; six twelve; two nine; and seven six-pounders. From this stronghold, Generals Gage, Howe, Clinton and Burgoyne marked the rising entrenchments of the Americans on Dorchester Heights, three miles away. After the evacuation of Boston, General Washington ordered these works destroyed, as soon as the Continental Army moved to New York, lest the British, whose fleet was still on the coast, should return and repossess Boston, and make use of these fortifications.

Topographical History of Boston. Shurtleff.
Old Landmarks of Boston. Samuel A. Drake.

After this tablet was placed, the Old Grand Opera House upon which it was placed was razed. The tablet is now in the custody of the Bostonia Society.

ELIOT SCHOOL.

THE Eliot School, next to the Public Latin School, the oldest school in Boston, was established in 1713. It was the first school to unite reading and writing schools in one building. The present structure was erected in 1838. In the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. 13, July, 1859, appeared the following reference which voiced the sentiments of the residents of the North End in relation to their school:

“Proposition for a Free Gramer School at the North End of Boston, 1711–1712.

“It cannot but be thot strange that one Grammar School Should be thot sufficient for a Town of above Two Thousand Families when the Law of the Provence Imposes one upon Every Town that hath above One Hundred. Education is as Great and Good an Interest as can be prosecuted by any People and the more Liberally it is Prosecuted the more is done for the honor and welfare of such a People. The Gramer School in this Town is full of Scholars as can well Consist with a faithful Discharge of Duty to them. The North Part of this Town bears no inconsiderable Share in the Public . . . Benefits.”

Schools and Schoolboys of Old Boston. Brayley.

After this tablet was placed the old school building was razed and the Commission has not been able to locate this tablet. The Commission feels that it is but temporarily mislaid.

BENJAMIN HITCHBORN.

Died: Boston, Sept. 15, 1817.

BENJAMIN Hitchborn was a graduate of Harvard College and an eminent member of the Suffolk Bar. He was very active in colonial affairs. In 1775 he was taken by the British while bearing important papers on his person and imprisoned on the Admiral's ship the "Preston" then lying in Boston Harbor. He made a remarkable escape from the vessel and landed at Dorchester Neck whence he made his way to General Ward's headquarters at Dorchester Heights. He took a leading part in the suppression of Shays' Rebellion in 1786. He was one of the honored list of early Boston orators, delivering a notable address on the occasion of the anniversary of the Boston Massacre, March 5, 1777, and later the Fourth of July oration in 1784.

The building on which this tablet was placed was razed by the City of Boston consequent upon the widening of the approaches to the Sumner Tunnel, and the tablet has been mislaid.

ROYAL EXCHANGE TAVERN.

THIS tavern dates back to 1737. It was the resort of British officers during the Revolution. After the fire of December, 1747, which destroyed the Town House, the General Court was held here for the few remaining days of the sessions. It was also the favorite hostelry for the Free and Accepted Masons of America.

In front of this tavern occurred the Boston Massacre of March 5, 1770, in which the first blood of the Revolution was shed. The spot is marked by a wheel-like arrangement of the paving stones in State Street directly in front of the site of the Tavern. The first stage coach ever run over the road from Boston to New York was started from this tavern on September 9, 1772, by Nicholas Brown, to go every fourteen days.

Old Taverns and Tavern Clubs. Samuel A. Drake.

This tablet was not made.

DILLAWAY-THOMAS HOUSE.

THIS house, situated on what was formerly known as "Meeting-House Hill" and "Roxbury Hill," and just before the Revolution as "Tory Hill" from the fact that Isaac Winslow and other friends of the British government resided on or near it, was the residence of General John Thomas, who made his headquarters here during the siege of Boston. When, in July, 1775, General Ward took command of the right wing of the Continental troops at Roxbury, Thomas commanded a brigade under him. He was an excellent officer, was surgeon of a regiment sent to Annapolis Royal in 1746, became colonel of a provincial regiment in 1759, and served under General Amherst in the campaigns ending in the conquest of Canada. He was made a provincial brigadier February 9, 1775, and was appointed to the same rank by Act of Congress June 22 of the same year, and to that of Major-General March 6, 1776. On the evening of March 4, 1776, with three thousand men, he occupied and fortified Dorchester Heights, throwing up in a single night such formidable works as to compel the evacuation of Boston by the British, thus terminating the siege. Intrusted soon afterward with the command in Canada, he joined the army before Quebec May 1, 1776, where an attack of small-pox, then fearfully prevalent and fatal in his army, carried him off on June 3, 1776. The siege of Boston, a most memorable event in her history, opened here with the march of Lord Percy to Lexington on April 19, 1775, and virtually closed when General Thomas took command at Dorchester Heights, March 4, 1776. It lasted nearly eleven months, during which Roxbury, barring the exit of the enemy from the beleaguered town by land, bore the brunt of the conflict.

The Town of Roxbury. Boston Records, 34th Report.

This house is now owned and maintained by the City of Boston.

A tablet for this house was ordered at the close of Mayor Curley's last administration, but the bronze tablet was not ready at the time of dedication, and a temporary wooden tablet was used. The bronze tablet has never been made and the order has been rescinded.

THE FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL.

ON September 16, 1930, the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of Boston, the beautiful memorial to the Founders was dedicated. The structure is the design of Charles Allerton Coolidge, eminent Boston architect, and member of the Commission on Marking Historical Sites. The bas-relief is by John Paramino, Boston sculptor. The memorial stands near the site of an ancient spring which bubbled here at the foot of Beacon Hill. This spring was one of the allurements which induced John Winthrop and his followers to come and settle at Shawmut, the Indian name for Boston. Directly opposite, on the corner of Spruce and Beacon Streets, stood the dwelling of the first white settler of Boston, William Blaxton, who invited John Winthrop and his followers from Charlestown. The bas-relief depicts Blaxton greeting Winthrop and his company. In the foreground is John Winthrop, the first Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony; the Reverend John Wilson, minister to Winthrop's followers, and first minister of the first church in Boston; and Ann Pollard, the first white woman to set foot in Boston. Blaxton is shown extending his hand in friendly greeting to Winthrop. In the background are Winthrop's followers debarking from their boats and hauling them up on what was then known as Mill Cove, an enlargement of the Charles River which reached within a short distance of Blaxton's dwelling. On the extreme left is a group of friendly Indians who had accompanied Blaxton to the spot of welcome. These Indians did not wear the feathered headdress so characteristic of the Western aborigines. Out in the stream rides the *Arbella*, her sails partly furled. On the extreme right in the immediate foreground stands a young woman, symbolizing the motherhood of Boston, protected by a Puritan soldier helmeted and bearing a spear, who reflects the military spirit so essential in the new colony.

In the distance, to the left across the Charles River, lies Charlestown,—and further to the left the outline of the area which was later to be known as Cambridge. This is the first real memorial of an enduring character to be erected to the memory of William Blaxton, the pioneer, and to the first Puritan settlers of Boston.

An appropriation of \$45,000 was made by the City Council for this project. The Commission planned the design and details of the structure.

The dedication of the Memorial, which took place on the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of Boston, was one of the noteworthy events in the celebration of the tercentenary year. With the cooperation of the Public Celebrations Association, an elaborate program in keeping with the occasion was carried out.

A special committee of prominent citizens headed by the eminent lawyer, Sherman L. Whipple, was appointed by Mayor Curley to take charge of the erection and dedication of the Memorial.

FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

SHERMAN L. WHIPPLE, *Chairman.*

WILLIAM SUMNER APPLETON,	WILLIAM P. GREENLAW,
CHARLES KNOWLES BOLTON,	HENRY HORNBLOWER,
JACOB F. BROWN,	EDWARD A. HORTON,
WALTER S. BUCKLIN,	JOSEPH H. O'NEIL,
ABRAHAM K. COHEN,	FRANCIS PEABODY,
WALTON L. CROCKER,	JAMES J. PHELAN,
THOMAS H. DOWD,	WILLIAM B. REVERE,
FRANCIS WRIGHT FABYAN,	HENRY M. ROGERS,
EDWARD A. FILENE,	HARRY E. RUSSELL,
ALLAN FORBES,	MRS. BARRETT WENDELL.

In connection with the Memorial to the Founders, Mr. Sherman Whipple, Chairman of the Founders' Memorial Committee, caused to be published at his own expense a limited edition of seven hundred and fifty copies of "*The Planters of the Commonwealth*," a notable volume of valuable manuscripts long since out of print. Mr. Whipple had acquired the manuscript from the author, Charles Edward Banks. The work is characterized as a "Study of the Emigrants and Emigration in Colonial Times; to which are added lists of Passengers to Boston and to the Bay Colony; the ships which brought them; their English homes, and the places of their settlement in Massachusetts, 1620-1640."

PROGRAM OF DEDICATION.

PRELUDE BY THE BOSTON MUNICIPAL BAND, 2 TO 2.30 O'CLOCK
AT THE TRIBUNE

OFFICIAL PARTY ASSEMBLES AT 2 O'CLOCK BEFORE THE MEMORIAL
UNVEILING OF THE BRONZE TABLET BY MISS KATHERINE WINTHROP,
LINEAL DESCENDANT OF JOHN WINTHROP
OFFICIAL PARTY PROCEEDS TO THE TRIBUNE
EXERCISES AT THE TERCENTENARY TRIBUNE, 2.30 O'CLOCK

INTRODUCTORY

Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements
SHERMAN L. WHIPPLE, ESQ.

PRESENTATION OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER

HIS HONOR, MAYOR JAMES M. CURLEY

INVOCATION

REV. HENRY K. SHERRILL, D. D.

PRESENTATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF THE
COMMONWEALTH, HON. FRANK G. ALLEN

CHORUS

- a.* "Italian Street Song" *Herbert*
 - b.* "Tarantella" — Italian Folk Song
- DORCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS' GLEE CLUB

PRESENTATION TO THE CITY OF BOSTON OF THE MEMORIAL TO
THE FOUNDERS

HON. THOMAS H. DOWD
Of the City Commission on Marking Historical Sites

ACCEPTANCE BY HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR OF BOSTON

HON. JAMES MICHAEL CURLEY

SELECTIONS BY THE CHORUS

- a.* "Praise Ye the Lord" *Arcusky*
 - b.* "St. Mary's Tune" *Arranged by O'Shea*
- (From Dr. Walter's "Music Explained," 1721)

READING OF THE BOSTON TERCENTENARY POEM

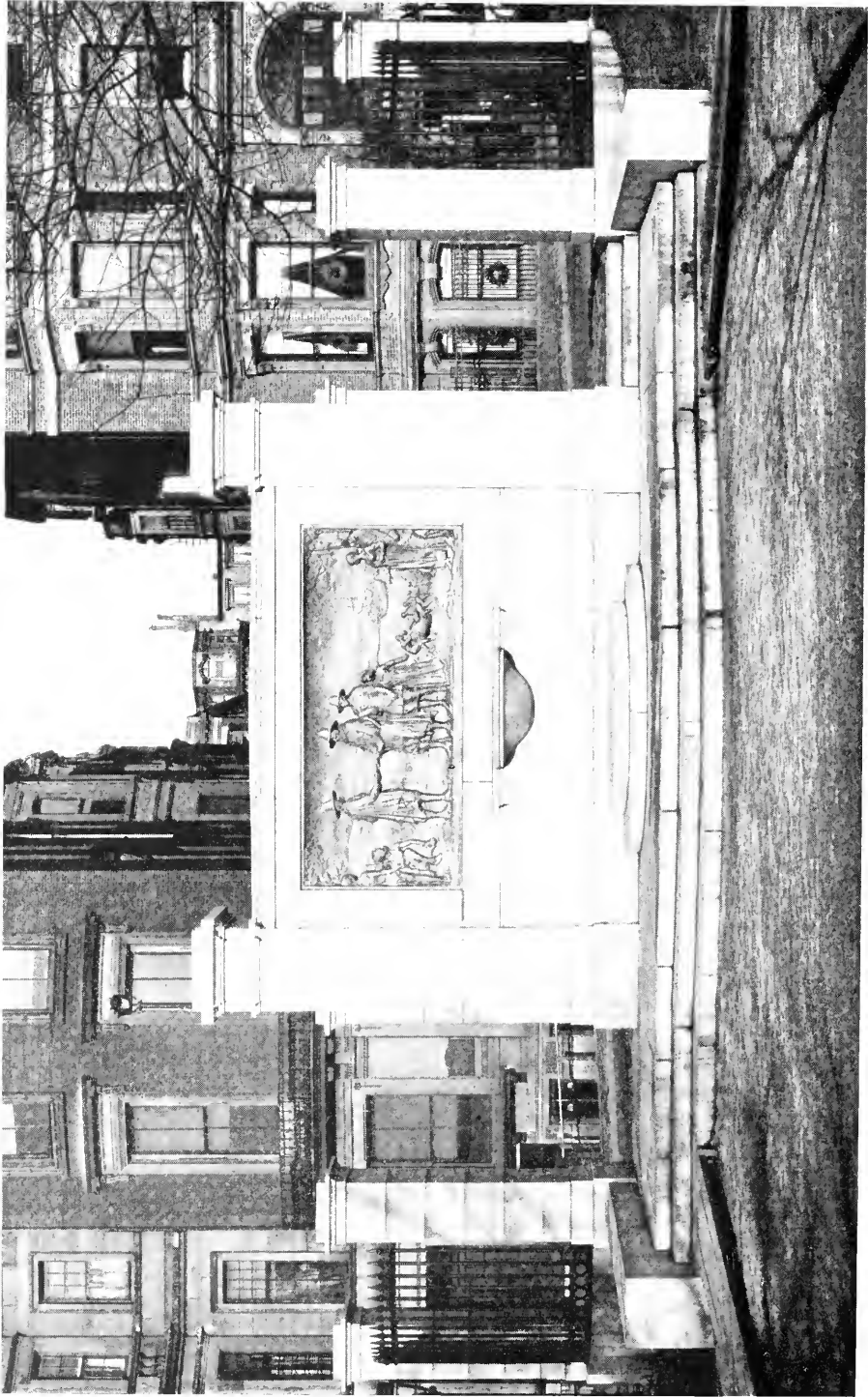
EDWIN MARKHAM, L. H. D., Litt. D.

SELECTION BY THE BAND. "Creation Hymn"

Beethoven

ORATION

HON. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS,
Secretary of the United States Navy
"STAR-SPANGLED BANNER"



TABLET NO. 56—FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL (FULL VIEW)
BOSTON COMMON, BEACON STREET

SHERMAN L. WHIPPLE, Esquire, Chairman of the Arrangements Committee, opened the exercises with a brief address as follows:

Your Excellency the Governor, Your Honor the Mayor, the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy, Miss Winthrop, Bishop Sherrill, Your Worship, the Mayor of Boston, England, and our other distinguished guests from abroad and at home, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is well for peoples as well as for individuals to pause in the busy activities of life to review the past. It is thus that we gain inspiration for the future.

Today is such a day of retrospect.

It is now three hundred years since John Winthrop and his courageous band of adventurers visited the Shawmut peninsula and drank of the waters of William Blaxton's spring.

Out of the vast happenings of these three centuries it would be difficult to say what interests us most here today; but nothing, I venture to say, interests us more than the spirit and purpose which actuated this hardy Winthrop band to leave their homes of comfort to cross the turbulent Atlantic and settle here.

As to this purpose — whether religious or economic — historians are not yet fully in agreement. Probably both motives operated; but the evidence is preponderating that most came here to better themselves in civic, political and financial position. And this has been the underlying principle in the uprearing of our institutions and the founding of our government.

The land of opportunity! A land where those who merit may achieve; where the humblest child, with nothing other than courageous will, industry and native talent, may find his chance to develop, unshackled by traditions, by social castes, or unfair laws.

Thus John Winthrop's great purpose has run through all our three centuries of history and today inspires our future.

So we, who are the beneficiaries of that great purpose, assemble here to do honor to those who, through agonizing hardship, gave us our heritage.

What could be more fitting on this day than that one should preside at these memorial exercises who, in this land of opportunity, has with resolute courage, indomitable will and untiring industry, with high purpose and lofty motive, raised himself from humble beginnings to a position of leadership and power in the Commonwealth and influence in the nation, the Chief Magistrate of our beautiful city, Mayor Curley!



TABLET NO. 57 — FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL (TABLET)
BOSTON COMMON, BEACON STREET

The invocation by the Right Reverend HENRY KNOX SHERRILL, D. D., Trinity Church, and since made Episcopal Bishop of Massachusetts, was as follows:

Almighty and Everlasting God, we bless Thy Name this day for the great heritage which is ours, for the courage, vision and faith of founder and pioneer. With reverent gratitude we remember before Thee those men and women known and unknown who through the years, by unselfish devotion to truth and righteousness, have made possible the life of our city. Humbly we beseech Thee to give us grace to follow their good examples that all things may be established upon the best and surest foundations to Thy Honour and Glory and to the better understanding of men and of nations. In Thy Name we ask this.

GOVERNOR ALLEN, when presented, spoke, in part, as follows:

Your Honor the Mayor, Honored Guests, Citizens of Boston, and of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

We are assembled here today to do such honor as is in our power to Governor John Winthrop and to those others of the founders who laid here the foundation of this city, this Commonwealth, this nation, and a fairer form of government than the world has ever elsewhere known.

The centuries have marched their steady way since Winthrop and his associates came. On the long pathway of those years are the imprints of many feet. Courage, happiness, sorrow, tragedy, all have had their part, and all have left their mark on the highway of the nation's growth.

Today we reap something of the rich harvest they sowed. We believe, and have reason to believe, that ours is a mighty Commonwealth, and that this, our chief city, is a fine town. When Dr. Holmes wrote, nearly seventy-five years ago, that the "Boston State House is the hub of the solar system," he coined a phrase often quoted with a smile, as it was written with a smile; but he gave to Bostonians also a sense of continuing responsibility. We must preserve and strengthen what we find before us.

Amid many celebrations and observances of this Tercentenary year, this of today is to Boston perhaps the most interesting and most significant. It is not only because of the great city that has grown from the invitation of William Blaxton which brought the first settlers to this neighborhood, but also because here, where we stand, has been saved for the present and for posterity this great open space, this broad Common, in the heart of this modern city.

We who live or have our affairs in Boston fall into the way of taking the Common for granted. It is as familiar to us as the streets over which we travel; yet it is unique. It is more than a park. It is more than a recreation field. It is both of these, but in its freedom, and by its location,

it stands forever as a living fulfillment of the implied pledge of freedom and liberality which grew to fine flower here in this Hub city.

Mrs. Hemans wrote of the Pilgrims, who preceded those who settled our own city of Boston, these inspired words:

“Ay, call it holy ground,
The soil where first they trod!
They have left unstained
What there they found —
Freedom to worship God.”

So the poet paints the broad canvas. We know, by observation and by experience, that no people go easily and unhindered along the pleasant ways of peace. Obstacles, difficulties, dangers, come in their inevitable array, with each generation. Man conquers these according to his strength and his purity of purpose. In this never-ceasing battle against wrong, in this ceaseless warfare in behalf of the rights of man, there are influences which are of incalculable aid. To win the war against the enemies of freedom we need not alone the material things, we need even more the spiritual strength that comes to those who are blessed by inspiring history.

The Massachusetts Bay Colony set up for us of succeeding generations, whether by birth or by adoption, the equal heritage of all, such a background as forever serves us when danger threatens. In this rich heritage this splendid Boston Common is one of the items. It is a symbol of that liberty of thought, speech and action which have kept Boston not only, as the genial poet and essayist said, the “hub of the solar system,” but an unchanging star in the firmament of freedom.

We speak of this memorial which we see unveiled here today as an honor paid to the founders, and so it is, in that the spirit that moves us to erect and to celebrate this thing is breathed upon and made vital by a sense of what we owe them. I like to think, as well, of the idea that the spirit of these brave men, and women, too, whose memories we reverence today, is reaching out over the long expanse of the centuries, to strengthen and give renewed courage to us now, and that the forefathers are seeking by the vitality of their memories to honor us of today, even as they honored the times in which they lived on earth.

My friends, I stand here to speak in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. You all know the Latin motto of Massachusetts,

“Ense Petit Placidam Sub Libertate Quietem.”

There is another line, not in our motto, but found in the original Latin whence our motto comes, and that line reads:

“Manus Haec Inimica Tyrannis”

and translated, it means, with the rest of the phrase which we know: "This hand, at enmity with tyrants, seeks by the help of the sword peaceful repose under a rule of freedom."

"This hand, at enmity with tyrants."

So let it ever be, in Boston, in Massachusetts, throughout our America. The tyranny of the foreign foe seeking conquest, the tyranny of the lawless who would subvert government, the tyranny of ignorance, of skepticism, of selfishness, of predatory power — against all tyranny we set the sword of righteousness, seeking freedom and peace for all forever.

The address of presentation was made by the Honorable THOMAS H. DOWD, Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Marking Historical Sites.

His speech of presentation follows:

Some six years ago during his second administration as Chief Executive of the City of Boston, Mayor Curley, anticipating the observation and celebration of the Tercentenary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, appointed a commission known as the Commission on Marking Historical Sites, whose function was to mark by suitable tablet or memorial the many places of historical import with which our honored city abounds. The sites of the habitations where dwelt the early colonists; the meeting-places wherein the early patriot pledged his faith in American independence; the scenes of the heroic labors and valiant sacrifices of the early crusaders to our shores; all are shrines sacred to the memory of the founders of American liberty.

It seems somewhat singular that many of these treasured spots of American history lying within the portals of our honored city, and priceless in their import, should not have arrested official attention during the passing years. True it is, that some of the most important places historically had been marked by patriotic organizations and historical societies, but no comprehensive or systematic plan had been followed in the marking. No city in the land offers a fairer field for such labor. None there is within which the sturdy character and indomitable purpose of the early colonist and patriot can be studied more intimately. Here where first was sounded the note of commonweal; here where first was struck the blow for American independence; here wherein abides the Cradle of American Liberty. It was the wish of his Honor that each tablet or memorial should be a work of art, and of enduring stone or bronze. The accurate knowledge of the antiquarian, the discerning sense of the artist, and the deft skill of the sculptor have been engrossed in this work. Each memorial and tablet has received the official sanction and approval of the Boston Art Commission. It is a matter of deep gratification to the members of the Commission that some fifty tablets and memorials have been erected or placed without exciting adverse criticism of any inaccuracy of historical inscription or

FOR WEE MUST CONSIDER THAT WEE SHALL BE AS A CITY VPON A HILL
 THE EYES OF ALL PEOPLE ARE VPPON VS SOE THAT IF WEE SHALL DEALE FALSELY
 WTH OUR GOD IN THIS WORKE WEE HAUE VNDER TAKEN ... WEE SHALL BE MADE A STORY
 AND A BY-WORD THROUGH THE WORLD — JOHN WINTHROP ON BOARD THE ARBELLA 1630

THUS OUT OF SMALLE BEGININGS GREATER THINGS HAUE BEEN PRODUCED BY HIS
 HAND THAT MADE ALL THINGS OF NOTHING ... AND AS ONE SMALL CANDLE MAY
 LIGHT A THOUSAND SO THE LIGHT HERE KINDLED HATH SHONE TO MANY YEA IN SOME
 SORT TO OUR WHOLE NATION — WILLIAM BRADFORD AT CHARLES-TOWNE-1630

IN GRATITUDE TO GOD FOR THE BLESSINGS ENJOYED UNDER A FREE GOVERNMENT
 THE CITY OF BOSTON HAS ERECTED THIS MEMORIAL ON THE THREE HUNDREDTH
 ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING ——— SEPTEMBER 17th 1630 — 1930

JAMES MICHAEL CURLEY MAYOR

CHARLES ALLERTON COOLIDGE ARCHITECT

JOHN FRANCIS PARAMINO SCULPTOR

TABLET NO. 58—FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL (INSCRIPTION)
 BOSTON COMMON, BEACON STREET

fault of design. In our erudite city this is high praise for the exacting labors of the Commission and for the meticulous care with which these memorials have been prepared. The members of the Commission deeply appreciate the generous approval with which its work has been received by the citizens of Boston.

It had been the hope of the Commission to have all tablets placed for the Tercentenary celebration, but at the close of Mayor Curley's second administration the Commission ceased to function.

Upon his inauguration for the present term His Honor at once requested the Commission to resume its labors, suggesting that it give immediate attention to a general memorial to the early patriots and builders of the nation, to be known as the Founders' Memorial. The sum of \$45,000 was voted by the City Council for this purpose. The Commission selected as a fitting theme for such memorial the meeting of Governor John Winthrop, the first Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, and William Blaxton, first settler of Shawmut, which resulted in the founding of Boston. The structure dedicated today stands at or near the place where the momentous meeting occurred.

John Winthrop and his sturdy band of followers had left Yarmouth in England on the eighth day of April, 1630, and after weeks on the perilous ocean, the "Arbella" and the sister ships which bore his party arrived in Salem Harbor on June 12. Not intending to settle in Salem, a delegation was sent out on June 17 to seek a suitable place for settlement. On its return, the delegation reported in favor of Charlestown, called by the Indians "Mishawum", the great spring. Governor Winthrop and his faithful band did not long remain satisfied with this location north of the Charles River, and at the earnest solicitation of William Blaxton, who had acquainted the Governor of an excellent spring here, came to settle in Shawmut, the place of "living fountains," as it was called by the Indians, Blaxton being the lone white dweller, and having a small cottage which stood at or near the corner of Spruce and Beacon Street.

The structure of the Memorial is from the design of Charles A. Coolidge, eminent architect; the allegorical group and inscription are from the suggestions of Walter Gilman Page, former member of the Massachusetts Art Commission, Charles K. Bolton, librarian of the Boston Athenaeum, and Walter K. Watkins, historian general, members of the Commission working in collaboration with their fellow members.

The name Boston was given to the settlement on September 7, 1630, in honor of the Reverend John Cotton, renowned minister of colonial days, and second minister of the First Church, whose birthplace was in Boston, England.

In the words of the historian,—"thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced by His hand that made all things of nothing;

and as one candle may light a thousand, so the Light here kindled hath shone unto many, yea, in some sort to our whole nation," and I may add, to the world.

Mr. Mayor, it is my pleasant duty, on behalf of the Historical Sites Commission, on this the Tercentenary of the Settlement of Boston, to turn over to you as Chief Executive of the city, this Memorial to the Founders. "As with our fathers, so God be with us."

MAYOR CURLEY responded in the following words:

Your Honor, it is with inexpressible pleasure and pride that I accept, for the City of Boston, this Memorial to the Founders, who, under the leadership of Winthrop, brought to American soil and to Boston, in particular, a charter which has served as a model for free government all over the world for the last three hundred years; and which I believe will, in its provisions, serve to be a guide for humanity wherever man aspires to be free until the end of time. The condition of the world was such at the time of the grant of the charter, ecclesiastical differences were so many and varied, that the grantors within seven years, realizing that its provisions were so revolutionary as to amount to an attack upon the divine right of kings and perhaps the eventual annihilation of that principle, relented and made almost superhuman efforts to secure its withdrawal.

Nonconformity to the tenets of the Established Church was taking firm hold on the minds of Englishmen and the people. Finding themselves forced to worship contrary to their heart's desire they looked for emancipation and, naturally, cast wistful eyes across the water and to the new found land. The spirit of rebellion was rife. Men were struggling for the light. It may be said that the first rising demand for absolute freedom of conscience stirred the whole country but could be realized only in the lands across the sea. So they came across a pitiless ocean to a pitiless shore, determined to suffer anything in the way of physical privations if only their souls might be free.

I have been struck particularly by the reliance which these, our forebears, placed upon a Supreme Being. They believed, and carried out their belief in every way, that unless the Lord built the house, they labor in vain that build it. John Winthrop, on board the "Arbella" in the year 1630, warned his companions that if they would succeed in the cause to which they had consecrated themselves, they must not deal falsely with their God, that they must not forget that Word which was in the beginning and that Word was God.

We look around us today and we marvel, as we read the history of the last three hundred years, at the glory and the wonder of this city of ours set upon a hill. We are prone to admire what we call the genius and the

ingenuity of man, but we must not forget that without the help of the Creator we can do nothing. We should be eternally thankful to Him for the results which we look upon with so much self-admiration and satisfaction today.

These men and women who came here three hundred years ago were men and women of vision. They laid the foundations of the new government deep and strong, and because of their character, their vision, their industry and their high spirituality for three hundred years the history of Boston and as a consequence the history of the United States and the world, tell a tale so striking, so wonderful that we may say in the language of the Scriptures that in contemplation thereof "the angels rejoice and the morning stars sing for joy."

At this moment a thought occurs to me. Tomorrow will be the seventeenth day of September and the birthday of the City of Boston. But not Boston alone rejoices in the event. No, the echoes of our celebration are heard throughout the nation and the world. And in the South, St. Augustine, Florida, born on the same day, in the year 1565, rejoices with us. The day, furthermore, reminds us that on the seventeenth day of September, 1787, the Constitution of the United States was adopted at Philadelphia. A new republic became added to the sisterhood of nations. The world looked forward with keen expectation. It seemed as if a new era had come in the history of man and those who have contemplated the history of our country since the date of the adoption of the Constitution must be aware that a new day has come, and the peoples of the earth, wherever oppressed, have looked upon the spectacle with the same surprise as does the astronomer when a new planet swims into his ken.

I recur to the day, now almost fifty years ago, when commercialism threatened with demolition one of our great national shrines, the Old South Meeting House, sacred to the memory of Hancock, of Adams and of Warren. The spirit of patriotism in the people, which was not dead but only sleeping, burst into flames. Indignation found a place at every fireside. Public meetings were held to rebuke the recreant industrialism that would invade our holy of holies. Emerson says that when a great cause is at stake just one man should speak. This man rose in the ancient pulpit of the Old South Meeting House, delivered an oration, inspired by the occasion, and by the entire history of our country. The great abolitionist — for it was Wendell Phillips — uttered a warning to Boston when he told the assembled gathering, and through them told the world, that anathema was launched from on high against those who defied the injunction, "Remove not the ancient landmarks of your fathers."

Your Honor, I have done. I accept with a full heart this Memorial which you present to the city today, through me as its custodian or trustee. May I continue to be worthy of this sublime trust. And when another

hundred years or three hundred years shall have rolled by, may the Mayor in that day be able to say with truth that the men and women of 1930, remaining true to the ideals taught them by Winthrop and his companions, carried on their principles with such fidelity that we thank the men of 1930 with the same sincerity as do we now offer a special gratitude to the early founders. These men suffered and died for a principle.

The historian marvels that a single one of them survived and that despair did not bring an end to their colony. I wonder if our task, notwithstanding the advance in civilization, is not greater even than was theirs. However, no matter how great, we shall have the same reliance as did these forefathers and put our hope in God. We shall do this, whether as individuals or cities, or commonwealths or as a nation. If we do this, I have abiding faith in the perpetuity of our institutions. I have no fear that another Gibbon will take his pen in hand to write the decline and fall of the United States of America. In fine, this is our prayer, "As God was with our Fathers, so may He be with us." "Lord God of Hosts be with us yet, lest we forget."

Selections by chorus of school children.

- a.* "Praise Ye the Lord."— Arensky.
- b.* "St. Mary's Tune."— Arranged by O'Shea.

Ode written and read by EDWIN MARKHAM, on Boston Common, to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the birth of Boston in 1630:

ODE TO BOSTON.

Boston, it was not chance
That drew you hither in the world romance.
Not a loud windmill, not a noisy tavern,
Not some mysterious cavern,
But a deep need drew hither your pioneer
In the old heroic years —
A need to find a shore
Where men were free to labor and adore.
This was the urge that made
You rise to greatness in the winds of trade,
In beauty of wisdom and in moral might,
Till you led all America in light.

Here came the children of an iron race,
Who climbed to an imperishable place —
A Puritan band, austere and tense as fire,
With a calm purpose time could never tire.
They found in will their wine,
While humbled by the Vast and the Divine.
Lift hands to them and cry
Their names into the trumpets of the sky.

They stood for the sacred Hearth, yet dared alone
To cleanse the Altar and destroy the Throne.
They stood as rock against a world perverse,
Despite the scoffer's sneer, the courtier's curse.
On fields of fight, in chambers of debate,
They could hold ground and never yield a gate.
They rode to battle shouting songs to God,
Made terrible the very ground they trod.
Before a King they stood up coldly proud;
But to the King of Kings they meekly bowed.
Humbler were they, and yet could trample down
A Church, an Aristocracy, a Crown.
Their conscience raised them to a starry birth;
Their duty hardened them to iron bands.
So they made England terrible on earth,
Terrible to evildoers in all lands.
They were the men who saw
That some things matter, that the hammer of law

Hangs threatening overhead,
 Hangs even above the nations of the dead.
 These were the men heroic in their days,
 Worthy of all men's honor and God's praise.

They were an iron race,
 Who carried the hush of God upon the face —
 In language frugal and in faith austere,
 Even in their raiment whimsical and queer,
 They had no rustling silks, no nodding plumes,
 No rattle of spurs, no high chivalric dooms.
 Instead, they had the homely paths where lurk
 A rock-ribbed faith, a dogged will to work.
 They had no families proud of pedigree,
 No lords with jeweled sword and gartered knee.
 They had instead the reverence for law
 And love for ax and hammer and singing saw.
 Was this mere drudging work? So it would seem;
 And yet it was fulfilment of a dream,
 The purpose to build a State,
 With men left free to conquer Time and Fate.
 Thus the new epic of the world began,
 Where there's room for a man to be a man.

To these free shores they came,
 These later pilgrims, with their hearts aflame,
 To find homes where the soul
 Could worship and push onward to the goal.
 Here came the eager band
 Who counted all of England's mighty land,
 And all her easy luxury, well lost
 For the soul's freedom — gladly paid the cost.
 "Not a new country only — a new mind!"
 This was their cry to all the world behind.

II.

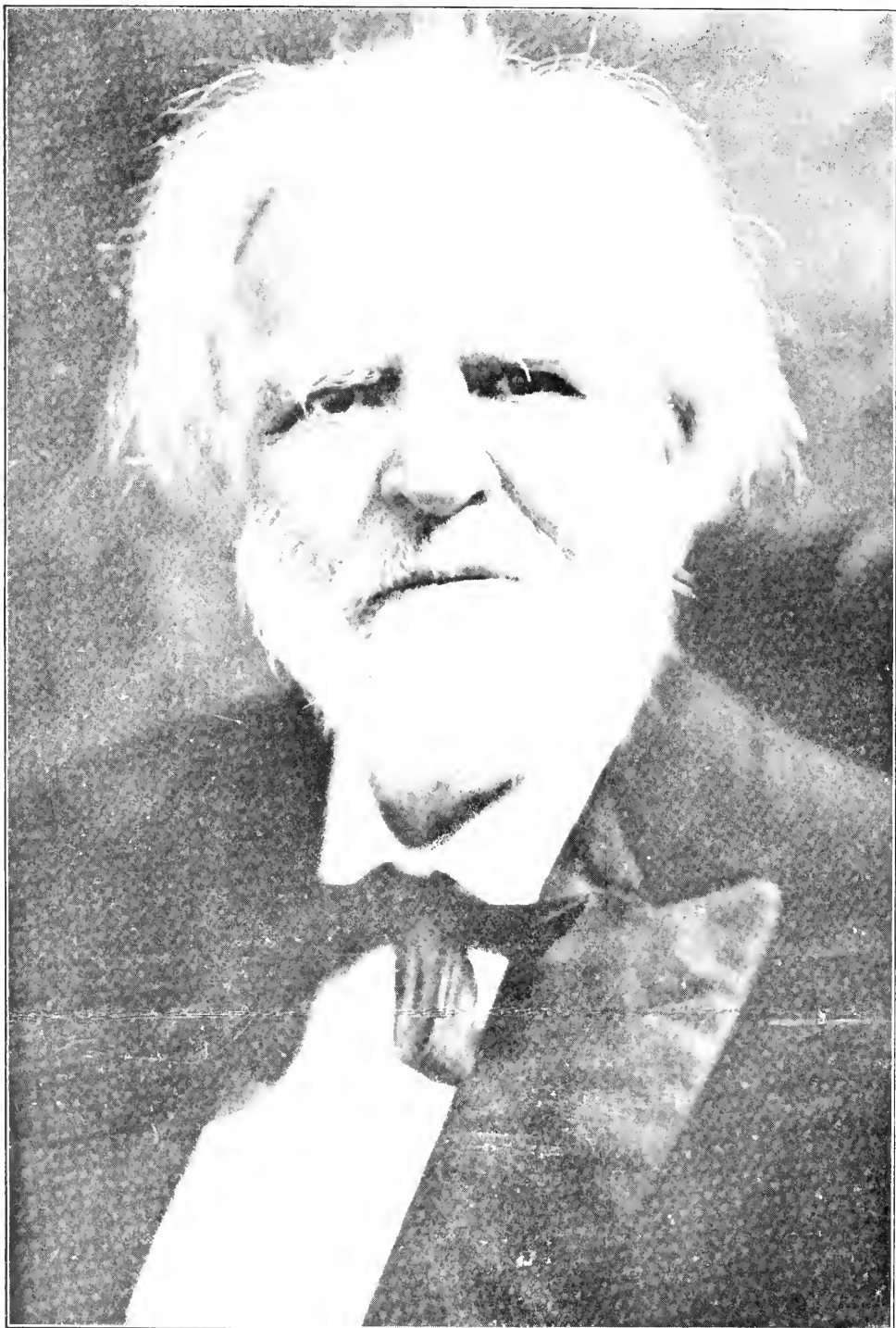
Forgive them if they did not always give
 The freedom that the soul must have to live.
 No, no, they did not always grant to others
 The freedom needed for a world of brothers.
 Death was the one democracy they knew:
 And so they cried: "Rule by the chosen few,
 Not by the People!" Then a lofty soul
 Pointed the ages to a higher goal.

He was a prophet: Thomas Hooker seems
The father of our democratic dreams.
From him went out on men a holy breath,
And dead democracy stood up from death.
He saw her rise into a blessed fate
Where Christ should be the ruler of the State.
This city of God, this was his soul's great vision.
The dream for which he faced the world's derision.

Remember, too, in sixteen-thirty-five,
A man whose soul helps keep the world alive,
Beamed on your streets, a man without a fear —
Sir Henry Vane. Not king, nor prince, nor peer
Could daunt his hero soul, nor ever bend
His purpose to be true,
And do the work that God had given to do.
So he blazed onward bravely to the end;
And when old England led him from the Tower,
It was her infamous hour.
But say this thing in praise:
That love and valor walked with all his days.

John Winthrop, too, tender as tears was he,
Yet firm as a grim rock looking on the sea.
John Winthrop and Henry Vane,
This brave high-hearted twain
Caught a glad vision of that greatest thing —
The Christian State, the realm where Christ is King —
The Comrade State that John of Patmos saw —
Justice its gate and Love its sovereign law.
For this New Order, waiting in the sky,
John Winthrop dreamed and Vane was glad to die.

And it was also sixteen-thirty-five
(Let the heart's memory keep this year alive!)
It was this year of earth
That called the Free School into birth.
And did you know the grandeur of your deed,
Boston, the day you flung that heavenly seed
To root the tree of knowledge, whose boughs expand
Rich in their fruit above our mighty land?
It was an hour when Fate
Stood at your opening gate;
For in that hour, primer and speller and pen
Began to mould the destinies of men.
Once more had God in flight
Cried to the darkened world, "Let there be light!"



EDWIN MARKHAM

Yes, when men touched this secret shore of earth,
A world-dream rose to birth.
Among the mightiest dates,
Lettered in light on Valor's towering gates,
Which Time shall take account of, this is one.
They fought the bleak soil, the inclement sun;
They turned the wild morass
To gardens and groves and fields of rippling grass.
And in the later years,
They fetched red bricks from ever-smoking kilns,
Timbers from Maine, granite from shattered hills,
And built long wharves and stretched out sheltering piers,
To draw great ships from all the world of men,
Until it seemed Carthage had come again.

And all around us here, in wood and stone,
We see the work of millions, the unknown.
Here rise their monuments though not a name
Of all their host is on the wind of fame.
We honor them: they built these walls and towers,
And share in all the glory of these hours.
They did their valiant part,
And have their place in the memory of the heart.
Their names are written in no mortal book;
And I aver that every faithful soul
Will have his name upon the Eternal Scroll,
Where the assessing angels lean and look.
So blow your bugle for the silent fame
Of those who serve yet die without a name —
Blow clarions for the unknown toiling bands,
With crooked backs, scarred faces, shattered hands.
They are God's workers and will get their wage;
Their names are written on his Honor Page.

III.

But, Boston, you have also many a name
Of hero souls that Time has given to fame.
Let memory call them back,
The great ones who have brightened all your track.
But first behold the spirit of Faneuil Hall,
A spirit tall as the great stars are tall.
Her soul was like a sword;
Through her the passion of the people poured.
Here blazed the great debates;
Here crouched in waiting the expectant Fates.
Here stood the altar of the People; here
The God seemed ever ready to appear!

When England shook the whip of her desire
Over our heads, James Otis flamed to fire.
Here at this shrine, the bold one towered and thundered,
And all our drowsing people woke and wondered;
For out of the valor of his spirit fell
The far first notes of Independence Bell.
James Otis, son of flame,
All England heard his name —
Otis, whom all the swords of England could not tame.

In these tempestuous years Sam Adams came,
All valor and all flame.
Blow bugles on a tower
And lift for him hosanna in this hour.
“Make peace with your king,” cried Gage;
And Adams answered in quiet rage
(Give to his answer wings!)
“I trust I have made peace with the King of Kings.”
Now in this later age,
We cry acclaim to all the Adams clan;
Each one shows all men how to be a man.
This Patrick Henry of New England blew
The first bright bugle of a world made new.
In his heroic will
Were heard the shots that sang on Bunker Hill.

Here, too, the lion Franklin mewed his youth,
Caught early visions of his homely truth;
Then, at a later hour,
He stirred with pulses of a godlike power,
Drew down from the locket heavens the lightning’s light,
And gave newborn America the might
Of thoughts that winged her for the deathless flight.

Here Lexington unloosened her lightnings; then
A fire went out upon heroic men.
Here, too, were heard the guns of Bunker Hill,
The guns that were the blazon of God’s will.
And in that early flame
The thunder of the Revolution, came
High-hearted Warren, spirit of fire and air,
Son of the morning, son of dream and dare.
Set the bright bugle to your lips and blow,
Boston, for all the centuries must know
This towering soul that had no self to serve;—
This leader of men, all daring, all reserve.
No greater gift you gave,
And heaven’s white light still shines on Warren’s grave.

The weeping crowds, with steps that were a knell,
Walkt your lone streets that night that Warren fell.
Now let the bugle above all battles cry
Warren's great name, a name that must not die.

And it was here under the applauding elm,
Our Washington, the chieftain of the realm,
Drew sword and took his stand
To build into deed the dreams of this young land.

IV.

And it was here the great Lloyd Garrison saw
God's terrible judgment frown
On the black man's fetters, licensed by the law —
Even on the Constitution that came down
From Independence Bell —
"A covenant with Death, a league with Hell."
Behooted and behowled,
Bespattered and befouled,
He stood bare-bosomed to the coming storm,
Stood like an angel's fierce accusing form,
And shouted judgment cries,
Shaking his fist against the darkening skies.
Quickened in spirit by the Secret Powers,
He cried to earth the march of judgment hours
And into these prophecies brave Whittier cried
A fury of God would not be denied.
On roads that other feet had never trod,
They held the way for God.

And Theodore Parker, too,
One of your gallant sons forever true,
He had the dauntless dare
That leaps, all fire, to strip imposture bare —
His was the wrestle for the naked facts,
A winged will for acts.
Sincere as crystal and as bold as youth,
He never feared the truth.
Friend of the fettered slave,
He fought for every freedom that God gave.

O Boston, in your Faneuil Hall was heard
Great Wendell Phillips thunder Freedom's word,
A protest that was morally sublime,
A poem that will echo into Time.
Scholar was he, and yet
He saw what men forget —
That scholars must come forth in valor and might,

Battle great questions, riddle them with light.
 The cowardice of scholarship is a curse
 That sends a darkness on the universe.

And then your poet clan,
 Thundered the truth of man.
 Their ever-daring song
 Was Beauty's cry against a world gone wrong.
 They hurled the torch of truth on life's dim way,
 To light the souls that live their little day.

First, behold Poe whose birth
 Let into Time a soul not meant for earth.
 He was a star-crossed one
 Who peered into dark gulfs hidden from the sun.
 Yet he had power to sing
 And touch our souls with some mysterious wing,
 Some flash of mystic fire,
 Some piercing, strange, ethereal desire.
 His song is all one cry
 For something that no earth can satisfy.

And now our hearts behold
 Your Longfellow — not of heroic mold,
 Not one who sees into the tragic deeps
 Wherein the world's incurable sorrow sleeps;
 But one who smiles and knows
 The easier paths where homely pleasure goes,
 Where there is sunburnt mirth
 And evermore a sense of home on earth.
 Under his hand, the tender homely things
 Take color and a lift of sudden wings.

And, Boston, in your litany of fame,
 Fail never to read out Lowell's lordly name.
 His pungent humor, tart with Yankee phrase,
 Saves for us all New England's homespun days.
 He has a genius looking far and wide,
 A nature sloping to the southern side.
 He sees the great wrongs, yet with each one
 He has a broad exposure to the sun.
 Still he can leave the earth-way, and take flight
 Into the heavens and thunder for right.
 He knows it is dangerous to cry
 "All's well!" when for the truth we ought to die
 He is the scholar, poet, sparkling wit,—
 His mind an ocean by the lightnings lit.

Boston, be proud, for Emerson is your son,
Your starry, high, imperishable one.
He is the winged man.
Greatest, save Lincoln, of all our new-world clan,
He lifts men from the creeping paths to see
They have place in life's sacred mystery —
Have sure place in the dignity and worth
Of these great days of earth.
He brings to sense-bound souls that wander by
The mighty dreams that commerce with the sky,
Dreams deathless and divine —
Man's sacred bread and wine.

V.

These are your sons, O Boston; these abide
And rule us from beyond the Last Divide.
Step softly as your heart remembers; they
Made possible your deathless yesterday.
Step proudly too as when a warrior comes
Home from the battles and the martyrdoms.
Up from stern roads your spirit has ascended;
By these high souls your soul has been attended.
Their wisdom lit America, and then
Lit in all lands the darkened steps of men.

These high souls have gone on to higher roads,
And looking backward from their bright abodes,
Their wild hearts wonder if we will maintain
The honor of their great days left behind —
Wonder if we will have the battling mind
To fight the wrong and bear heroic pain.

In the old days your heroes built the State,
And stood as sleepless watchers at the gate.
O Boston, maker of men,
You hammered heroes on your anvil then.
So for three centuries you have felt the beat
Of daring hearts, the pulse of daring feet.
Now they are looking from their higher ways,
Touched by the magic import of our days.
They call to you: "Do something to befit
Years lit by flashes from the Infinite!"

And your strong men will rise to meet the call,
God standing in them, terrible and tall.
And so we praise, O city by the sea,
All you have been and all that you will be!

The Honorable CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Secretary of the United States Navy, the orator of the day, then delivered the following address:

In a summer of pageants and speechmaking, when people of all classes are asking themselves what is meant by the words "Pilgrim" and "Puritan", we have come together to look for the first time upon a Memorial to the Founders of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. It matters little what we think today of this picture in bronze and granite, but it matters much how those who come after us interpret the purpose which we had in fashioning this monument. The passions and the policies of the centuries to come are latent here, to be born of the figures which we see before us in bronze.

We must look into the hearts and minds of these figures if we are to get at the real significance of this momentous meeting. Winthrop's visit to the lonely inhabitants of Shawmut, later called Boston, marked the beginning of a great enterprise. As the Reverend William Blaxton walked from his home on what we now call the northern slope of Beacon Hill to watch the approach of Governor Winthrop and his friends crossing the river from the Charlestown shore, he must have seen the whole panorama of the history of the England he knew pass through his mind. Then he may well have said to himself in grave doubt — "What will be the outcome of this day's doings?"

But we must go back to England if we are to understand why Blaxton and Winthrop crossed the Atlantic and stood together in Boston on that September day in 1630. [The reign of James the First had been fruitful in the growth of commerce. It had penetrated the Orient, and was now reaching out to the great Continents in the West. A long procession of courageous explorers had visited and even charted our coast: Sebastian Cabot and Verrazano, who are no more than names in our school books; Bartholomew Gosnold, George Weymouth and Martin Pring, who came in close contact with our shores; and the more famous rovers of the sea, George Popham and Captain John Smith.

From Smith's day forward fishing in New England brought life and color to the entire west coast of Old England. From the English Plymouth, from Weymouth, and Bristol, a hundred ships and thousands of English soldiers came here, each year making seasonal and semi-permanent settlements. This West of England enterprise resulted in activity before and after the founding in 1620 of our Plymouth. Blaxton, although a Lincolnshire man from a town almost within the shadow of the famous spire of Old Boston, came with the West of England migration. He came with adventurers who hoped for gain or were induced by the promise of good wages; men who settled at Cape Ann, at Portsmouth and in Maine. They belonged largely to the Established Church, with which they had no quarrel.

But on the east side of England — in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex — were men of the best stock of the yeomanry, who had come to prize the greater religious freedom that was developing under King Charles the First. It was a time of free thought and experimentation. The Bible, in the hands of inexperienced people trying to think for themselves with little aid from education, fostered whimsical and untried doctrines. The determination to destroy symbolism, and to reconstruct church worship led to conflict with authority, for Church and State were then one. The law, perhaps, dealt with churchmen more gently than most historians will admit; refusal to kneel or to remove the hat were not serious offences. But when the clergy became rebellious the problem was more difficult. They were under oath, and they were officers of the realm.

It was in these eastern counties, the home of Winthrop, Pynchon, and Cotton, that the religious issue became most acute. Many people of substance and influence began to think of New England as a place of refuge. They read Captain John Smith's books, and they sought information from other travelers. In the smallest hamlets every detail relating to the new lands was eagerly sought. The climate, methods for fishing, the language of the Red Men, the soil and minerals, all awakened interest.

The cost of the voyage, the kind of food and clothing needed, the duration at sea, and the tools needed on shore — all these were subjects for keen inquiry. Stories of adventure were passed on from tavern to tavern until it is safe to say that Cape Cod and Pemaquid were known to many a farmer's boy throughout England. Especially was this true in Lincolnshire, the home county of Captain John Smith, and land of lean-to houses and hay stacks. It was true, also, of London, and the west coast seaports such as Bristol, and the channel ports of Plymouth and Southampton.

Strangely enough, after three hundred years moving pictures have made the descendants in England of these seventeenth century boys again familiar with life in America, from the Bowery of New York to the cowboys of our western plains, as no history books ever could or did.

It is well known that the so-called persecution of the Puritans in England was an influence toward the settlement of New England. But that is far from being the whole story. Economic distress in eastern England, and in London as well, pressed hard upon the humbler people. Church tithes and manorial exactions kept the farm laborers poor. There was little hope of rising from manual labor, and the church could do no more than counsel the people to bear their burdens with meekness. Then the more vigorous began to feel a great hope of bettering their condition in a new land.

As the clergy began to break away from ecclesiastical forms and authority, they, too, looked for a new Canaan. They became the leaders of the hegira. Most of the ministers who came early to New England were non-conformists or even separatists. They were ready for removal to a new land where the dead hand of precedent could no longer trouble them.

Colonel Banks has said:

“Although technically the plantations in this new country would be under the jurisdiction of the English authorities, yet they would inevitably become disentangled from all the traditions of the past, and [the opportunity to establish a liberal commonwealth was the great aspiration of those who had the courage to break away from the land of their fathers, cross an uncharted ocean, and encounter unknown perils from a savage race and from the wild beasts of the trackless forests.” This is the background out of which the Great Emigration emerged.

When Winthrop arrived, with several hundred immigrants in eleven ships, there were settlements already established at Plymouth under the able historian of the colony, William Bradford; at Salem, under Endicott; at Piscataqua, and at several places in Maine. Whatever the motives of all these men and women of the Great Emigration they were the founders of our city. Intolerant, some of them were, but they had the strength, the character and the leadership to make a great community. That community has deeply influenced the history and development of this country of ours. It is fitting, therefore, that we should preserve the history of those early days, and should place a reminder in this city of theirs and ours, which in three centuries has grown from a few rude dwellings to be one of the largest centers of population on the Continent.

A significant fact in the sculptor's conception of John Winthrop's first hour on the peninsula is that one of the two central figures — the Reverend William Blaxton — was already here when the Puritans came. A little way up Spruce Street, Blaxton built his house in 1625. He had a garden where the monument now stands, and here where we are gathered today the young clergyman cultivated his vegetables and his roses. Here he trimmed his apple trees, and as we say in New England, he worked around the place. On rainy days he wrote in his diary a record of the weather, and read his books, for he had a large library, judged by the standards of that time. Blaxton had come over to Weymouth in 1623, with a colony prepared to establish Episcopacy in America. It is natural, therefore, to find that he was never a member of the Puritan church, and that, as the years lengthened, he sympathized less and less with Winthrop and his followers.

These men, Winthrop and Blaxton, represent fine types of manhood that sprung into prominence on these shores. They were both tolerant by nature. They were both religious. They both ventured into the wilderness, leaving behind them comforts and friends. Winthrop, conservative in his civic thinking, a champion of organization and orderly government, was a practical politician. He had come across the Atlantic as the head of a typical English trading company. He believed that living together entailed compromise, even when his own gentler impulses were overruled by the ecclesiastical hierarchy with which he allied himself, but when the opportunity came, he and his friends, with their charter in their own hands, interpreted its provisions as they thought expedient, and transformed the company into a government moulded to their own liking.

Blaxton, a sensitive individualist, was a pioneer to whom the solitude of woodland and sea had a fascination that drew him to these lonely shores. He could have enjoyed in England church preferment, to which one of his social class might have thought himself entitled, but he preferred Indian neighbors and transplanted roses for his companions. When the encroaching wave of organized civilization, for which Winthrop stood, encompassed him, he moved to Rhode Island, where he found more hospitable surroundings.

This monument pictures also the Indians, who had inhabited New England for countless years before the white men came to settle here. It is well that they should be in the picture. They were friendly enough and taught the first settlers those rudiments of forest life that were so foreign to their life in England — the fertilizing of the furrow with fish or seaweed in order to nourish the kernel of corn, the practical use to which each kind of wood could be put, and the burning of underbrush to make the forest passable. They also taught the pioneers the value of local herbs. If the red man often grew confused when he considered the treatment he received and contemplated the God whom Winthrop feared, or the God whom Blaxton loved, came to reject both conceptions of the white man's Divine Power, it is not so very strange. This Indian was the victim of a dominant and a very imperfect autocracy.

The sculptor has introduced also into the picture the woman and the child, without whom no settlement is permanent. They were the real heroes. They endured and suffered most, and it is fair to say that they had all the courage and strength and far more beauty of character than the men.

They proclaim that on this spot Winthrop and his followers intended a city should endure, "a city upon a hill," as Winthrop puts it, and he prophesied that the eyes of all people would be upon the Puritan builders. In this respect the Winthrop company and not Blaxton are entitled to be

called the founders of Boston. But there is honor enough for all — for the Indians who look up in bewilderment into the faces of the white intruders, for the Church of England clergyman who had tended his roses and cultivated his garden for five years before Winthrop came, and for the sturdy Puritans who swarmed over Shawmut with business-like efficiency in the autumn of 1630.

The gentle young clergyman, Isaac Johnson, and his wife the Lady Arbella, married in the face of fierce parental opposition, had come here as a haven of peace. They died of exposure. One of every four of those who arrived in the great fleet of that year succumbed. The hardy alone had survived, and of these one in every six left in discouragement, or in discontent. Those who remained to build a commonwealth were, said Governor Stoughton, "the choice grain of a whole nation sent over into this wilderness."

As one scans the list of passengers on the eleven ships of Winthrop's fleet, the "Arbella," "Jewel," "Talbot," "Charles," "Mayflower," "William," and "Francis," "Hopewell," "Whale," "Success," and "Trial," these freight ships with blunt bows and tall terns, which had been converted into emigrant carriers, it becomes evident that the passengers were not all strictly "the choice grain of a whole nation," in the sense that Stoughton intended, but a fair selection from all grades of society.

Some names in the list mean nothing to us today, but others have grown in lustre with the years,—Simon Bradstreet, distinguished through extreme old age as a wise counselor and administrator; William Coddington, gentleman, an upbuilder of Rhode Island; Governor Thomas Dudley, whose letter to the Countess of Lincoln gives an invaluable picture of these first years in Boston; William Hawthorne, ancestor of the famous novelist; Isaac Johnson, gentleman, called by Doctor Prince the actual founder of Boston; the Reverend George Phillips, an independent and courageous thinker, in a group where it was not always safe to think aloud; William Pynchon, gentleman, another courageous man who went home in disgust because his religious views were not approved; Sir Richard Saltonstall, whose fine face has come down to us in portraiture, a face revealing the high character of the man who protested against the cruel and narrow faith of the first minister of Boston, the Reverend John Wilson, another passenger in the fleet. This is not the place for a catalogue of all the well-known names of those who came in the Winthrop fleet. While all grades of society are represented, there are so many names of worth that Stoughton is not far wrong in asserting that these are indeed the choice grain of a nation, sifted out for the building of a colony in the Bay.

The Puritans were consistent in their course. They came here to found a commonwealth built upon their own interpretation of the Bible. It was inevitable that those who agreed with them should be few in number, and that even among the few there should be diverging views as time went on. These Puritans leaders kept to their course as an arrow speeds to its mark. If they could not live in harmony with Roger Williams, they did not compromise, but sent him to that cave of Adullum — the Providence Plantations. Mrs. Hutchinson went the same way. Let us by all means admit the virtue of the Puritan position. Conviction meant strength, but strength little tempered with justice led to excess.

It was the government of England, the royal power, not the so-called democracy of New England, that checked the destruction of the Quakers in 1661. It was the royal governor who in 1692 put a stop to the mad course of witchcraft. It was the King's ministers who finally in the new charter forced upon the Massachusetts government suffrage not based upon church membership. There was little of religious or civil liberty in early Puritan Massachusetts. For sixty years strong but ruthless Puritan control made its lasting mark upon two generations of transplanted Englishmen. They were formative years that have influenced the whole land in which we live. But time brought inevitable changes. Other ideals developed in part out of our admirable Puritan institutions, the public free school, the town meeting and representative government, but in part also out of the mingling of races on our soil. You cannot have an old and narrow civilization assaulted year after year by new races, new ideals and other religions without bringing about altered conditions. The coming of other people from Europe enlarged our horizon and mellowed our ancient stock. The assimilation of old and new world ideals is the mission of America. That task had its origin here. This monument stands for the beginning of great progress in those deeper and more significant movements which contribute to a higher civilization. As Bradford puts it:

“As one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shown to many, yes, in some sort to our whole nation.” This monument brings together in one group more than one race, more than a single shade of religious faith. It may well proclaim to those who come after us the purpose of America to grow strong and great through the mingling of races and through that tolerance of each for all which is the best fruit of these three centuries.

The exercises closed with the singing of “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

HISTORICAL SITES COMMISSION.

NECROLOGY.

"Some time at eve, when the tide is low,
 I shall slip my mooring and sail away
 With no response to the friendly hail
 Of kindred craft in the busy bay.
 In the silent hush of the twilight pale,
 When the night stoops down to embrace the day;
 And the voices call in the water's flow —
 Some time at eve, when the tide is low,
 I shall slip my mooring and sail away."

The Honorable DAVID A. LOURIE, Justice of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth, died January 18, 1930.

EDWARD WEBSTER MCGLENEN, for many years Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths of the City of Boston, died February 11, 1930. He was versed deeply in the early colonial annals and was the author of a History of Boston.

RICHARD A. FISHER, architect, died October 10, 1932.

WALTER K. WATKINS, former General Secretary of the American Historical Genealogical Society, died January 19, 1934. He was an authority on early colonial history. An edition of "Old Boston Taverns" came from his pen.

WALTER GILMAN PAGE, first Chairman of the Commission, eminent artist and historian, died March 24, 1934. He was for many years Chairman of the Art Commission of Massachusetts. He was one of the founders of the Sons of the Revolution of Massachusetts and was Chairman of its Committee on the Marking of Historical Sites. It was largely through his efforts that Mayor Curley became so deeply interested in the patriotic work of the Commission.

CHARLES ALLERTON COOLIDGE, nationally known architect and designer of "Modern Harvard", died April 1, 1936. He was sometime President of the General Alumni of Harvard University. An ardent student of history he freely gave of his great talents to the work of the commission.

RESIGNATIONS.

CHARLES K. BOLTON, Librarian of the Boston Athenaeum Society, resigned in 1933.

FOUNDERS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

SHERMAN L. WHIPPLE, *Chairman*, leader of the Massachusetts Bar and eminent public citizen, died October 20, 1930.

APPENDIX.

RECORDS OF THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL.

MARKING OF HISTORICAL SITES.

The following was received:

CITY OF BOSTON,
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, March 18, 1924.

To the City Council:

GENTLEMEN.—The commanding position taken by citizens of Boston since the establishment of the first settlement, to and through the Revolutionary War down to our own day, has been such an important factor in the establishment and perpetuation of free government as to render it highly important that scenes and events connected therewith be appropriately designated. With this object in mind, in 1923 I established a commission consisting of representatives of various historical societies to designate sites for suitable permanent bronze markers so that succeeding generations be informed as to persons and places inseparably linked with the movement for liberty in this section of the United States. That the object may be realized, I recommend the adoption of the accompanying order.

Respectfully,

JAMES M. CURLEY, *Mayor*.

Ordered, That the Commission on Marking Historical Sites be and hereby is authorized to expend under the direction of the Mayor a sum not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in the prosecution of their duties, said sum to be charged to the Reserve Fund, when made.

Referred to the Executive Committee.

CITY OF BOSTON.

IN CITY COUNCIL.

Ordered, That the Commission on the Marking of Historical Sites be and hereby is authorized to expend under the direction of the Mayor a sum not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) in the prosecution of their duties, said sum to be charged to the Reserve Fund, when made.

In the City Council, January 20, 1930. Passed — yeas eighteen, nays none.

Approved by the Mayor, January 21, 1930.

Attest:

(Signed) W. J. DOYLE, *City Clerk*.

The foregoing transfer order was passed in accordance with and after the written recommendation of the Mayor to the City Council, dated January 20, 1930.

Attest:

(Signed) W. J. DOYLE, *City Clerk*.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



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